# CHINA *monthly* REVIEW

密勒氏
評論報

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*. . . articles by*
*Monica Felton, Anita Willcox, Finlay MacKenzie*

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評論報

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# LETTERS
## From the People

**Comments from readers on current topics are cordially invited: their opinions, however, do not necessarily represent the views of the *China Monthly Review*.**

## FROM THE U.S.A.

### Hermosa Beach, California

It has been a great thrill to read how the new China has been controlling her rivers. We here suffer, year after year, seeing our precious top soil wasted away into the sea because the Power Trust succeeds in blocking government control and the cheap power and light which is our right.

Prices and taxes are prohibitively high. I have four grandchildren and I am so fearful for their future. Myself, I am facing the setting sun anyway so I do not matter, but the children, the children! How can we train them to be honest, with venality on every side?

I am on old age pension and we elder citizens are constantly being harassed by legislators who do not represent the people, and who incidentally vote themselves fat pensions. We fight back as best we can, but we shouldn't have to fight.

We are trying to do our bit in the struggle for world peace and for a cease-fire now in Korea, but it is uphill work with practically every agency of communication against us. I know the people want peace, but they are so fearful, it's pitiful.

K. C. Y.

* * *

### Delaware

Being one of those Americans, and there are many though inarticulate, who believe the day will soon come when China and America are friends on a new basis of national equality, I want to apologize to the Chinese people for the deplorable acts of shooting Chinese POW's on the third anniversary of the founding of their new republic. Having been a Marine during part of World War II, I know that this type of treatment of human beings doesn't have to happen, even under very trying circumstances. Good luck and continued success with the Review!

J. C. S.

* * *

### Missouri

I take the Review so I can hear about our boys who are POW's. Am glad the Chinese are treating our boys kindly. Am sure they know our boys do not want war or like war. All Americans are not war-

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minded. Most of us love peace and we want to be friends with our neighbors. I hope some day we can live in peace and be friends with all nations.

S. R. M.

**Minnesota**

I was wondering if you had by any chance run across the name of my brother who was taken prisoner in February 1951. I had hopes of an early truce but the US government

# LESSON FOR PEOPLE AT HOME

To the Editor:

To attempt to write one's impressions of China briefly is and must always be rather ridiculous, especially for a traveller who has only been in the country for two months.

At first I thought I could not attempt it, but on second thought there were one or two things I wanted very much to say.

I am from the West and at one time I did my best to master the theory of socialism. But it is not easy for ordinary people to keep their faith in a theory when it is utterly divorced from practice, and lately I had come to identify myself more and more with the philosophy of despair which is a symptom of western malaise.

I have a family of six children and had come to feel that they were growing up in terrible times—times of chaos and fear, times when youth had nothing before it except struggle, disillusion and unhappiness.

Since I came to China I have felt that we are all living in marvelous times—that the youth of all the world is fortunate to be alive and young today because the old philosophies of despair are going down under the great weight of a philosophy of hope, and many of them will live to see it triumph over the whole world.

The future is bright, and for many of us who had lost faith in it, this is the overwhelming impression left on us by a visit to new China.

The people who have taught me to think as I do now are the common people of China. I have seen some of the results of almost unbelievable feats of labor and cooperative effort, and in the capacity of peace delegate from New Zealand I have been privileged to meet many distinguished people who have taught me a great deal.

But I have also been privileged to grasp the hands and look into the smiling faces and steady, confident eyes of countless Chinese people—the workers, peasants and children. It is they who have driven the lesson home. It is them I shall never forget and never be able to pay for all they have done for me. They have given me the thing that is perhaps what mankind needs most and what so many of us in the West have been living without—faith in and love for the human race.

Things like personal impressions of a country, even when it is as vast and beautiful as China, pale before the enthusiasm and urgent desire we have seen here to win peace now and to secure it for always.

MARGARET GARLAND

isn't interested in a truce at all. Over here Truman is running around the country like a rooster with his head cut off. They don't give the poor boys a minute's thought.

My mother is 77 years old and her only hope is to see my brother again. She's had one very serious heart attack, and I certainly hope and pray he can get home to her in time.

Mrs. S. J. H.

• • •

**California**

The latest joker in the local newspapers was an article about how we next-of-kin of POW's were being made

# READERS' QUESTIONS

**A NUMBER of readers abroad have written to the *Review* in past months asking specific questions about conditions in new China. We welcome these inquiries for they give us some idea of what readers are interested in knowing. Here are some of the questions asked in recent letters from foreign readers.**

• • •

**QUESTION:** I have just read a long article in my newspaper about slave labor in China. It goes into great detail about the millions of forced laborers on the construction projects, and I'm wondering if this is true—**R.T.L., New York City.**

**ANSWER:** One of our editors recently visited the huge Huai River Construction Project, at the site of the San Ho Flood Gate in North Kiangsu. There were 60,000 workers on the job, of whom 50,000 were on earthwork, 3,000 were technicians and 7,000 were transport workers. Since control of the Huai River means an end to decades of floods and misery, the great majority of these workers, as on other sections of the vast project, are peasants who have volunteered for the job. Each person on earthwork is paid according to the quantity of earth he moves, and a sliding wage scale applies according to the difficulty of the work. For example, higher rates are paid where the earth is more difficult to dig, or where it has to be carried greater distances.

The average worker earns more than his daily food requirements, and in addition the workers get free housing, medical care (including necessary hospitalization) and traveling expenses from their home villages to the work site. Cooperatives near each site offer goods at prices below the general market level. These peasant volunteers work on the project during slack to pay ransom for information about our men. Said ransom consists of our subscribing to some publication for $23 a year. Said it was distributed by a Roland Wong in Hongkong. I am wondering what the name of the publication is, because I would like to subscribe. I already get People's China, but inasmuch as this is only about $3 a year, it must be some other publication. I'm quite disappointed I haven't received one of these "ransom" notes, because I would certainly subscribe. How stupid does our government think we are?

Then this new item about Lts. Quinn and Enoch being "tortured" to confess to germ warfare. Released by the press just before the question of BW comes before the United Nations.

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seasons on the farm. Necessary farm work at home is done by members of the village mutual aid team without charge, for they know that the absent member is doing a job that will benefit everyone.

* * *

**QUESTION:** I enjoy the Review, and am glad to see that things are progressing so well in China. However, you have carried reports that Catholic nuns have been killing the infants in the orphanages under their control. I can't believe this and I wish you'd explain it.—**P.L.B., Chicago.**

**ANSWER:** It may be difficult to believe that Catholic orphanages in China were guilty of criminal negligence regarding the children entrusted to them, if not worse; but the records kept by these same missionaries prove it.

When several of the delegates to the peace conference held in Peking last Octobr went through Nanking, they visited the Sacred Heart Home for Children, formerly a Kuomintang-run institution, which had been taken over by the Catholics in September, 1948. Examining the original registration books, the delegates saw clearly how cold-bloodedly Chinese infants and children had been treated by the nuns. From the time when the Catholics took over until January 1951, out of 530 children 377 had died, while more than 100 children were given away or sold just before the KMT fled from their capital in 1949.

These records, and a talk with some of the 57 children who survived the years of Catholic direction, revealed an incredible callousness on the part of the nuns. The first registration book they kept showed 193 names and 118 deaths; the second, 83 names and 72 deaths; and the third, 254 names and 187 deaths. In almost every case the child was baptized the day before death, attesting to the fact that the nuns were more interested in send-

How coincidental!

Mrs. R. B. M.

* * *

### New York City

I am sending you a clipping of a statement made by Norman Thomas. His distortions of the truth, misrepresentations and half-truths are horrifying, and I regret that a man of his integrity and good reputation should be so deceived about the true state of affairs in China. What can we, who have been reading about China for years and know well the characters of the leaders of the largest and greatest people in the world, do to let the people know the truth about China?

Mrs. J. L. M.

*(Continued on page 108)*

ing spirits to heaven than in saving lives.

On each page of the registration book a space was reserved for the date of death; it is difficult to believe that a school, orphanage or kindergarten, admitting infants or small children, would normally anticipate their deaths. The records, furthermore, show that many children had been in the orphanage months before they died, a refutation of the story spread by Catholics abroad that their orphanages in China took in infants and children who were abandoned and on the verge of death.

* * *

**QUESTION:** What's happened to the thousands of "White Russians" who formerly lived in Shanghai and other cities of China?—L.H.H., San Francisco.

**ANSWER:** In recent years the communities made up of "White Russians" who emigrated at the time of the Russian Revolution and their descendants, have grown progressively smaller. The first big exodus was shortly after the end of the Pacific War when the Soviet government offered to repatriate free of charge all who wished to return to the Soviet Union. In Shanghai and other cities several thousand members of the Russian community accepted the offer.

In addition, large numbers of "White Russians" have emigrated—and are still emigrating—from China to other countries such as the United States and Canada.

There are still several thousand stateless Russians and those who took out Soviet citizenship papers when the opportunity was offered them some years ago by the Soviet government who have elected to remain in China. They have the same rights as other foreign residents and go about their professional, business or other activities as usual.

# The Month in Review

- *The American Press*
- *Foreigners Visit China*

## The American Press and China News

THE people of the United States generally consider themselves as among the best-informed peoples of the world. There is much talk about freedom of the press, and various public officials, from the Secretary of State on down, frequently tell other nations that they would do well to imitate the United States in this respect.

Likewise, Americans are regularly reminded of their good fortune, it being declared that others, such as the Soviet and Chinese peoples, are subjected to all sorts of tyranny by bad governments largely because they lack a free press and are thus generally uninformed of the true state of affairs in the world. American newspapers themselves spare no pains in making this point with their readers. For instance, the *New York Times*, most influential paper in the United States, carries the proud slogan beneath its masthead: "All the news that's fit to print."

For the past three years—the period since the establishment of the new Chinese people's government—we have been painfully aware of the fact that most newspaper and magazine readers in the United States have been getting almost nothing but misinformation about China. Sitting in Shanghai and looking through various publications from the States, we regularly read of floods and other disasters which didn't take place, of famines which do not exist, of the jailings and "mysterious" deaths of Chinese and foreigners—some of whom live only a few blocks from us—who continue to walk the streets as spryly as we. At times we almost wonder if some horrible mistake hasn't been made; that perhaps there are two places called "China," the one we live in and another one the papers write about.

A number of people in America to whom we have mentioned this situation in our letters have replied that this is because the editors and correspondents are themselves misinformed, and that the situation would be easily corrected if they knew the truth. Some friends have suggested that American editors and correspondents would welcome our writing to them and "setting them straight" on conditions here.

RECENTLY we took this advice to heart and made an attempt to do just that. In October we went up to Peking for the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference and, noting that a number of US papers were carrying considerable comment on the conference, thought that some of them might be interested in having on-the-spot reports by American newspapermen.

The editor and associate editor of the *Review* sent cables to 13 well-known US newspapers, including the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Denver Post*, the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and *Baltimore Sun*. Only the *Christian Science Monitor* accepted the offer. The other 12 not only did not accept, but did not even answer the cables. The *Christian Science Monitor* took daily stories for the first week and then discontinued its coverage right in the middle of the conference, just as the delegates began the all-important work of drafting the resolutions.

It might be argued that a few of these papers felt that the conference was of no particular significance or interest to American readers. However, it is unlikely that a full dozen leading United States papers would feel this way, especially since several of them carried extensive comment on the conference.

It is only possible to conclude that these 12 leading representatives of the American press sold their readers short in this instance. Not only did they not show any interest in obtaining on-the-spot coverage of the conference when it was offered them, but they deliberately chose to rely upon reports gathered in Hongkong and Tokyo, both notorious clearing houses for misinformation, rumors and gossip about China.

Typical of the quality of the information about the conference available in such "listening posts" was the story carried by *United Press* from Tokyo on October 12, which stated: "It is hard to see how the great 'Asian and Pacific Nations Peace Conference' held in Peking could have been a bigger flop if the Reds had planned it that way. The same old fellow-travellers—from 39 countries, the Reds claimed—turned up and gave the same old tired denunciations of 'capitalist aggression' and 'imperialist encirclement.' But the ring of conviction was missing."

This type of coverage, which goes not only to the leading newspapers but to all daily papers in the US, can hardly help the American people understand the significance of a peace conference, where real people's representatives from all walks of life reached unanimous agreement on such urgent problems facing the American people as ending the war in Korea, the remilitarization of Japan, and the threat of a Third World War. It is a flip, arrogant, stupid report, representative of the type of coverage given events in China by observers stationed in such "vantage" points as Hongkong and Tokyo.

The fact of the matter is: The people of the United States are not only uninformed of conditions in China, but are terribly misinformed. The responsibility for this rests squarely upon the editors and publishers of the major US newspapers, news agencies, magazines and radio networks. As our recent experience with a representative group of American newspapers demonstrates, they perform this disservice deliberately and cannot plead ignorance or inability to do otherwise.

The distorted coverage given China by the US press brings into question the quality of its coverage of other countries and other subjects and, finally, cannot but raise doubts concerning its claims to be the most free and responsible press in the world.

## *Foreigners Visit China*

WHILE US officialdom busily tries to erect a "bamboo curtain" around China and delights in telling tales about the difficulties of foreigners here, a constantly increasing number of people from countries all over the globe are finding, through personal experience, that so far as the government and people of new China are concerned there is no curtain, bamboo or otherwise.

Witness, for example, the recent extensive tours of China made by the hundreds of delegates to the peace conference in Peking. From scores of countries, these men and women, representatives of every point of view from Christian Science to socialism, not only saw with their own eyes the great things that have been accomplished in three short years, but also received a tumultuous welcome from the people everywhere they went.

The professional distorters of new China are sure to talk about a "put-up job," that all this was staged. But, as one New Zealand woman delegate remarked, after her group had received a colorful, tremendous ovation along the streets of ancient Yangchow, "You might be able to get everybody out to wave at us, but how could you force them to express so much enthusiasm?"

Visitors not only travel everywhere, but talk with the ordinary people of China, from the factory worker in the Northeast to the peasant who has just received his own land near Canton. The *Review* editors, who accompanied groups of peace delegates, joined them in asking hundreds of questions. They were answered fully and frankly, and in turn the visitors were asked for their opinions and criticism of what they saw.

However, these peace delegates were not the first to visit new China; during the past three years many people have come from Latin America, Europe, Britain, the USA, Southeast Asia—parliament members, artists, businessmen—some well-known in their countries, others just ordinary men and women. And today, foreign visitors see and understand China far better than those "old China hands" in the past, who clustered together in the big cities, in their offices and clubs. They saw little of the real China and cared less.

ALTHOUGH the spate of official lies about China continues in the West, it is becoming more difficult to prevent those who have been here and seen the solid accomplishments of new China from spreading the truth; and it is becoming harder to stick the "Red" label to them, including as they do so many shades of social and political opinion.

As these visitors tell their own people of their rich and moving experiences in China, the "bamboo curtain" will vanish away just like the emperor's imaginary clothes.

◆

## COVER PICTURE

**"Transporting Firewood," a woodcut window decoration by Hsia Feng.**

# Vision of Sanity

## Anita Willcox

SEVEN short weeks are not enough to enable one to know an individual, much less the 475,000,000 individuals in a country as vast as China; but it is possible to receive sharply-etched impressions. Many of us from the West who have come to China as delegates to the Asian and Pacific Peace Conference in Peking have had moments of pessimism at home when it seemed that it might not be possible to thwart the plans of those who want a Third World War.

But in China we have met a clear dawn of expanding opportunity, vigor, courage—and joy. How many laughing faces have we seen, how many lusty youngsters shouting "Ho ping wan sui!"—Long live peace! In cities everywhere, in the villages, even in isolated farmhouses, where no delegate was expected, doves of peace welcomed us. For in this new China, born of dreadful civil war and brutal occupation, every man, woman and child wants peace.

While all of us have felt this joyous sense of the renewal of life, each must have felt an aspect of it in his own way. For my part, I have not ceased to marvel at such undeniable spontaneity within such extraordinary organization.

WE met it as soon as we arrived, on the eve of the first of October, National Day, when Chairman Mao Tse-tung gave a banquet to some 2,000 guests, including distinguished Chinese, representatives of national minority groups, model workers and the 400-odd delegates and observers to the peace conference.

In the past, I have never regarded such affairs enthusiastically, with the waiting around, desultory conversation, the long, long speeches. But I went to this dinner with great curiosity, and I had a wonderful time. Believe it or not, it was a warm, colorful, cordial affair, with an air of gaiety. Long buffet tables were set up in the ancient palace which had been rebuilt for the peace conference. At each table of 15 or 16 two Chinese hosts made us welcome, made graceful toasts, and saw to it that our glasses were kept filled.

Chairman Mao spoke for five minutes, then we ate the delicious Chinese food, and presently distinguished national leaders, including Chou En-lai, the premier, made the rounds of the tables to drink our health and chat. The delegations visited each other, in a sort of spontaneous informal parade. Beginning at seven sharp, the banquet broke up at nine.

The historic peace conference opened on October 2 in the palace where we had dined. It was transformed; long rows of desks had been installed, each with its own earphone which could be plugged into one of four languages. The equipment—made in China—worked perfectly. Underneath a huge dove, flanked by the flags of the 37 countries participating, was the platform. Smaller rooms adjoined the main hall, serving refreshments during the breaks in the sessions; and in back was a spacious garden banked with chrysanthemums, where we chatted and strolled, looking out over the golden tiled roofs of the ancient Forbidden City of the emperors.

Here I must make a bow to the China Peace Committee, which managed everything with tact and grace. We had hotel accommodations, transportation to the conference hall, and services of all kinds, including hospital care, all organized seemingly without effort. Timing—even allowing for the inevitable delegate who remembered something in his room as he was boarding the bus—was perfect.

We were gently called in the morning, rounded up for meals, entertained with so little apparent direction that we might have thought we did it for ourselves—at least, those among us who had never helped organize a convention. Everything was thought of, including notebooks, newspapers, copies of the previous day's speeches . . . never any hurry, always on time.

We discovered this efficiency as the conference progressed, but it was first apparent on National Day. I was dubious; parades never held any attraction for me, and we were told that

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**ANITA WILLCOX is an artist from New York City. She and her husband, an engineer and contractor, were delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference recently held in Peking. They have five children and five grandchildren. Mrs. Willcox writes of what she has seen during her 2,000 mile tour of China.**

**Hugh Hardyman (left), Anita Willcox (center) Mary Bonzo (right), US delegates presenting flowers and a small tree to the Korean delegates at the peace conference.**

it would be polite to stand when Chairman Mao stood; so the four hours looked tedious in prospect.

BUT never have I been more thrilled by any spectacle. The parade of more than 500,000 began on the scheduled stroke of 10 in the morning and ended five minutes early, at 1:50. The first (military) section took less than an hour; then came the people of Peking, bands playing, banners flying, their voices singing and shouting, rather flowing than marching by, a mighty river of vibrant humanity 300 feet wide.

In the wind the banners stretched bravely out in the sun, over the laughing faces, a symphony of color above the predominant blue dress of the people. The different groups chose their own form of decoration, and as they marched at different speeds, a mass of jade green flags might linger while gay cerise, blue or purple banners streamed by. Masses of great paper flowers waved, hundreds of live peace doves were released to circle over our heads.

The floats, proudly showing China's rising industrial production, were fascinating—there were great *papier-maché* spark plugs, telephone switchboards, a model of a dam. But the dominant note was peace, peace!

AFTER the conference we were given the privilege of seeing something of China, a 2,000-mile trip, from Mukden in the north as far as Hangchow in the south. We saw factories, workers' rest homes, sanitoria, the products of industry and art, and the great flood control and irrigation projects. We had perfect liberty to poke around on our own, and we talked to all sorts of people.

We saw many evidences of the capacity for efficient organization, coupled with spontaneity. This puzzled me, for I found it hard to believe that three short years of liberation from the inefficient and corrupt Kuomintang could produce such startling results. How could Chinese civilization, thousands of years old, respond so fully to the opportunity offered by liberation? Certain things I have heard and observed contribute toward an explanation.

Cooperation is most certainly one element of successful organization. For example, at least 1,000 students and workers stood on a platform across the tracks when we left Peking on our tour. They stood four to 10 deep, a solid laughing mass, toes at the edge of the platform. They shouted "Long Live Peace!" and some got up on benches; but nobody pushed, and nobody on the front row had to guard himself against being shoved off the platform. I marvelled at it to one of our delegates. "They just

Workers' section in October first parade.

aren't competitive," he observed.

When I asked a member of the China Peace Committee about this business of cooperation, he said, "The people had to learn it in the last 10 or 15 years in order to survive. They suffered so under the KMT and the Japanese that they had to cooperate or perish."

As for organizational ability, a friend pointed out that Chinese servants have always had a reputation with "Old China Hands" for running domestic affairs with a smoothness that foreign housewives have only dreamed of; at the other end of the scale, there have been the building of the Grand Canal and the Great Wall, which required vast organization.

Everywhere, I noticed one striking thing: of the hundreds of children of all ages we saw, we almost never heard children cry. Their round little faces and bright black eyes are usually friendly, sometimes a little shy; but it is very easy to coax a smile. I do not recall any fighting or quarreling among children playing with each other.

In Nanking, I talked with Dr. Wu I-fang of Ginling University (the Hongkong papers reported her a suicide last year!) about the training of children in China. She thought that Chinese parents are much less rigid in training their children than

"Peace Delegates, We Welcome You!"

westerners, that they include them in activities more, that Chinese children are much more relaxed. Certainly a warmer, more out-going, less self-conscious lot of children I have never seen.

ONE method used universally by the people's government in securing cooperation for any kind of work attempted is of fundamental importance; the objective is explained and the reasons for the work are given. The government considers it essential to explain to the last little boy carrying water, to the last worker carrying dirt in baskets hung from a shoulder pole, why the dirt must be moved.

In China people are working together because they believe in the work; and they are accomplishing the incredible. One striking example is the Huai River Project, about which volumes have been written and more will be written. I wish to note here only the stupendous job of organization required (not so much from the engineering point of view, since all engineering jobs demand planning), the particular kind of organization of the people needed in order to accomplish with manpower what would otherwise be done in these modern days with machinery.

China's engineers have long known what was required to keep the Huai River floods from ruining the crops and lives of millions who live between the lower Yellow and Yangtze rivers. But the job required a degree of coordinated effort which no government in the past even tried to muster, earthwork equal to that in 10 or more Panama Canals, a labor force of 10,000,000. (Not 10,000,000 jobs; if a man leaves to work on his farm and returns to the project, he is counted a second time.)

The work has been done by the farmers who suffered from floods in the past; when the government asked for workers the people flocked from all over the land, and mutual aid teams cared for their land and crops in their absence. The workers returned to the farms at harvest time.

We saw them at work, 60,000 at one place; I shall never forget the sight or the sound. Blue-clad men and women as far as the eye could see, poles over their shoulders, relentlessly moving earth in a half-walk, half-trot which keeps the load steady, chanting an age-old refrain. Working in teams of 14, they mark each team's advance with scarlet flags.

They knew about peace too, and found breath, as we passed, to cheer those who had come from distant lands on behalf of peace. Through interpreters we talked to model workers and ordinary workers. Such wide grins on eager faces, such a tumble of words about their dam, and how much more they can grow when they need fear flood no longer! They had known many floods, they had suffered under the landlords, they now knew liberation. . . .

# Let Us Grasp the

**HUGH HARDYMAN, a retired fruit grower from southern California, a poet and active worker in helping underprivileged children in the US, spoke to the American people over Radio Peking at the conclusion of the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference in October. After summarizing the great achievements of the conference, he told the American people how the US government's foreign policy is regarded among the Asian and Latin American peoples. The Review has excerpted statements from this part of his speech.**

* * *

AT no point in all the 100 speeches delivered in the plenary sessions of the conference, nor even in the long sessions of the commission on the question of Korea, in which I took part, was there a single expression of hatred or enmity toward the American people.

The conference condemned vigorously the actions of our government, expecially the use of biological warfare for the spreading of disease in Korea and Northeast China. Careful study of the report of the International Scientific Commission and the extensive collection of evidence on exhibition here, including the hand-written testimony of four of our pilots and tape recordings of their voices, has left not the slightest doubt in the mind of any delegate to this conference, including the delegates from the United States, that our government has used this revolting form of warfare on a wide scale.

But the blame for this crime against mankind was never once placed upon us, the American people. Even the delegation from Korea, many if not all of whom had lost several members of their own families in the war, acknowledged that the people

Like those eager workers, I cannot get the words out fast enough to tell of all the heartening things we have seen in this amazing new China. Going back to our own beautiful lands, now obscured by a foul fog of evil rumors of aggression, fear and suspicion of neighbors, we take with us the vision of sanity given us by the people of China.

# Hand of Friendship

of the United States were unaware of the frightful manner in which the war has been conducted by our military authorities.

No one can say for how long the peoples of the Pacific regions will continue to hold us guiltless of the actions of our armed forces. If we continue to allow our government to export disease and death to Asia and machines for the destruction of life to both Asia and Latin America, the time must come when not merely government officials but the people who elect those officials will be held responsible by the majority of the people in the world for these crimes . . .

IN this conference the hand of friendship was extended to the United States by the peoples of the Asian and Pacific regions. Surely we can grasp this hand before the patience, even the proverbial patience of the Chinese, is exhausted and the offer is withdrawn of equality and mutual exchange of goods and art, music and literature, science and techniques.

The settlement of all differences by negotiation is still possible. If we refuse to enter into sincere negotiations with the other four great powers, we shall have none but ourselves to blame for the results of that refusal. In the hearts of 1,600,000,000 people is a great longing, a longing eloquently expressed again and again in this conference—"Ho ping wan sui"—Long live world peace!

Certainly that cry is echoed in the hearts of the American people. Let it find expression in letters written to the president, to senators and to representatives, so that we may turn from the path of death to the building of a more abundant life.

## An Interview with Monica Felton:

# STOP THE WAR!

MONICA FELTON was the British representative of the Women's International Democratic Federation in the group which investigated conditions in North Korea in 1951. Returning to England, she made her findings known and took an active part in peace work. As a result, she was dismissed from her government job as head of a town planning commission. Mrs. Felton, who was awarded a Stalin International Peace Prize, made a second visit to Korea in September 1952.

She was interviewed by the Review at the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions held in Peking last October, which she attended as a specially invited guest. In the interview, Mrs. Felton describes her visit to a Prisoner of War camp in North Korea and her impressions of the struggle being carried on by the Korean people.

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**QUESTION:** Mrs. Felton, we understand that you visited a Prisoner of War camp when you were in Korea. Could you tell us something about it?

**ANSWER:** Yes, I spent a short time at Camp No. 5, which is in an incredibly picturesque spot on the Yalu River, with high mountains behind it. We crossed the river by ferry to the camp, and found that two-thirds of a village had been given over to it. POW headquarters was about a mile from the village. There was no barbed wire around the camp. The POW's were divided into sections—Americans, British, Colombian, Turkish, etc.—but all mixed freely in the village.

* * *

**QUESTION:** We've received quite a few letters from families of American POW's and many of them ask about the living conditions at the camp. What was your impression?

**ANSWER:** They live in Korean houses, quite primitive, but clean. They sleep on mats on the floor, with blanket and hard pillow; they told me it took a long time to get used to hard beds, but once used to it they found it adequate and good for their health. I think they keep warm in winter because the homes have a form of central heating. . . Korea was the first country in the world to have it. The main part of the house is built up from the ground, while the kitchen is on a lower level and the flues go under the rest of the house, keeping the floors warm. The winters are extremely cold, but the men have quilted clothing.

* * *

**QUESTION:** Did the POW's say anything about the food?

**ANSWER:** Yes, indeed. They said there was plenty of it, but that it was getting boring. Some of the British POW's said they were sick of the sight of pork! The sugar ration is one and a half pounds per month for each man, and they also have a cigarette ration.

* * *

**QUESTION:** What do they do all day to keep busy? Are there any facilities for sports and recreation?

**ANSWER:** The POW's have organized ball teams, and there is fishing and swimming. Each camp has a library, with Mark Twain, Dickens, Soviet novels, and political literature. No compulsory political courses are given, but short talks, given by Chinese in good idiomatic English on news items and general subjects, are compulsory. A large Anglo-American study group

Monica Felton (center) talking with US delegates in the garden of the Peace Conference Hall.

**POW's in their quilted clothes, shoes and gloves.**

has been organized, with courses on such subjects as public speaking and how to conduct meetings.

* * *

QUESTION: What was your impression of the way the POW's are being treated?

ANSWER: I found that the Chinese try very hard to meet reasonable requests. For example, I learned that many POW's didn't want to write their families because the envelopes had "Resist American Aggression" on them. I mentioned this to the Chinese, who thanked me, and the letters I received from POW's later came in envelopes marked only "airmail."

Nearly all the POW's I met had been allowed to keep their personal possessions, watches, etc. Some described their march north to camp, when they were always given shelter, even though it meant turning Koreans out of their homes . . . John Gaster, a British member of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers who visited a camp last spring, told the Chinese that they were doing too much for the prisoners, that Americans and British tend to look down upon people who serve them, and that they should make the POW's work for themselves. This summer, I found that the American and British POW's were working, building their own clubhouse of materials supplied by the Chinese.

**QUESTION:** How do the POW's you talked to feel about peace?

**ANSWER:** They have their own peace movement. It was started in the spring of last year, with an American officer as chairman and a British private as secretary. The POW's got together and decided they wanted a peace organization, and they asked permission of the Korean government to meet with other POW camps on this subject. They held general peace meetings, with all camps participating, and they're now issuing a peace magazine.

I talked with six American POW's and many British prisoners who were active in the peace movement. They felt the majority of prisoners supported their views, and said they had learned from the Chinese how to analyze the objections of those who disagreed with them, and now they had a much better relationship with them.

* * *

**QUESTION:** Do they know about the truce talks? What do they feel about them?

**ANSWER:** Yes, indeed, they know. They follow the progress of the talks very closely and they felt that they were phony and the US was at fault for not reaching agreement long before this. All the POW's I talked to were convinced that the war

American and British POW's have a well-stocked library of books and magazines.

had been started by the US and South Korea. And their attitude toward the US election campaign seemed to be that "one side's as bad as the other."

* * *

**QUESTION:** Did the POW's have any complaints?

**ANSWER:** Yes, they complained about their mail. Before, all their letters had been sent through the China Peace Committee, and although mail was slow, it did get through. But now they said that all mail went via the truce negotiators and they felt that it wasn't getting through. I had talked with the mother of a British POW in England, who told me that she was regularly sending clippings to her son; but when I met him in camp, he said he had never received any of them . . . The British POW's particularly resent their mail being stamped "US Army P.O." From several of them I got a list of letters sent and received, with dates, which I shall check with their families.

★

A recent US bombing raid on Pyongchunri, in the southern part of Pyongyang, left many civilians homeless. Special targets for US bombs have been workers' homes.

★

One young American POW described to me how the camp was bombed, in spite of the fact that its location was clearly marked by agreement between both sides. "But that," he added bitterly, "didn't prevent them from killing and wounding our own fellows . . . And when I went out next morning and saw the way the Koreans in the village looked at me, I could have sunk into the ground with shame . . . What can we do to make certain that our own people know these things? When we get home, we'll tell them ourselves, but they ought to be told now . . ."

* * *

**QUESTION:** Did you talk with any of the US Air Force men who had confessed to germ warfare?

**ANSWER:** Yes, I met Lt. Quinn and found him to be very friendly and likable. As you know, he is a Catholic, and he told me that at first, when he was given books to read, he refused to look at them. One day he was handed the Dean of Canterbury's "Socialist Sixth of the World." The very thought of the "Red Dean" upset him, but there was nothing else of interest to read, so he began it, and then couldn't put it down. He said that book and Epstein's "The Unfinished Revolution in China" started him thinking.

He seems to have a great sense of personal guilt for the part he took in germ warfare, and he talked about the conflict in his own mind, as he loves America and the American people, and feels a deep loyalty to his country, which he described as "the best place in the world." But he was sure that he had done the right thing in confessing his part in germ warfare, and is quite prepared to accept the consequences.

He mentioned that he used to read a great deal about how drugs and torture were used in Eastern European trials to get confessions, and then he grinned at me and asked, "Do I look as though I'd been drugged and tortured?" He felt certain that his family would support his stand.

* * *

**QUESTION:** When you visited Korea this time did you find any differences since your last visit?

**ANSWER:** Yes, I found that Korea had changed in two

Mother and son with undaunted spirit rebuilding their ruined home.

significant respects. First, the fury of physical destruction had risen to new heights, and second, the magnificent bravery of the ordinary people, which struck me so during my first visit, had taken on a quality of calmness, had become stronger.

In 1951, Pyongyang was already a ruin, but scattered skeletons of buildings afforded some shelter, and a dense population lived in tiny huts on the outskirts. But this year not even the skeletons of buildings remain, so savage have been the most recent attacks, and the hovels on the outskirts have also been pounded into dust . . . all that remains of such "military objectives" is scattered tiles, charred fragments of wood, a litter of broken pots, rags, an occasional broken toy.

**QUESTION:** And what's been the effect of these recent bombing raids?

**ANSWER:** Well, on the morning of September 16 I went to see the results of the previous night's bombing. The bombs had fallen in a village of tiny houses, far from any building that could have been of the slightest military importance; yet the fields of onions and cabbages were torn with bomb craters.

The wounded—most of them women and children—were still being carried to the hospital, and some of the dead were being lowered into roughly-made coffins. Nearby, other bodies and fragments of human limbs still lay where the force of the blast had blown them . . . I asked an old man if he had stayed in the dug-out during the raid. "How could I stay in the shelter," he asked with a hint of reproof, "when I knew that other people were suffering what I have suffered and that they might need my help?"

This 68-year-old peasant is a significant part of Korea today, because he is typical of the quiet courage and heroic determination that make up the spirit of a people who can never be defeated. I met that spirit all over North Korea.

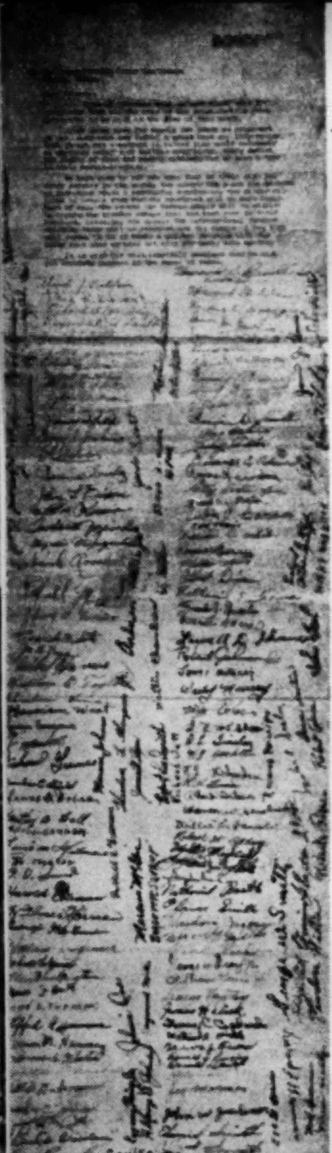
* * *

**QUESTION:** How do you account for this courageous attitude of the people?

**ANSWER:** I mentioned that the courage of the Korean people had taken on a quality of calmness. This calmness is the fruit of achievement which has been won during the past year in spite of incessant bombing. Life in Korea today not merely survives, but advances. The countryside is rich with a bumper harvest, and destroyed livestock is being replaced by skillful breeding.

In Pyongyang itself a new life goes on underground, where productive work and even cultural activities are safe from bombing. Outside the city orphaned children are being nursed back to health with a loving care that is an example to the whole world. The women of Korea, whether caring for the children, tending the sick or cultivating the fields, show a purpose, a strength and gaiety of spirit full of confidence in the future.

The Korean people show courage in the highest and noblest sense; but it is courage in circumstances which the world must refuse to tolerate. The terror that stalks in Korea is a terror that can destroy the world as we know it. The war in Korea has gone on too long—far too long. The time has come for the peoples of the world to act, to put an end to it.



# AMERICAN POW's

THE following message (photostat at left) was sent to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference held in Peking last October by more than 200 American and British POW's in North Korea.

* * *

Some of the best news we have heard here for quite some time was the news of the Asian-Pacific Peace Conference to be held this month.

After being here for nearly two years as prisoners of war, such news was indeed a great hope and inspiration. Even though our treatment is better than would ordinarily be expected under such wartime conditions, being denied the rights of free and useful citizens for so long a time is truly morale-breaking.

We here wish to let you know that we truly wish you every success in the world. The sooner the peace negotiations at Panmunjom reach a successful conclusion, the sooner millions of people from various countries will be made happy. Most of all, the sooner the Korean people will be enabled to repair the immense damage that has been done to their homeland. Likewise, the sooner the international tension existing today will be lessened and the danger of new wars will cease. To us it means a quicker reunion with our loved ones whom we have not seen for many, many months.

It is with our most heartfelt feelings that we wish you complete success in the cause of peace.

# WANT PEACE NOW

**THE USA delegation to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference received 15 letters signed by 64 American Prisoners of War expressing their views on peace. Excerpts from these letters follow:**

* * *

WE want to take this opportunity to wish you warm greetings. We realize that peace is what every man, woman and child desires in this world today. It is up to brave, open-minded people like you to lead us to this goal . . . We feel certain that if the people at home had witnessed war as we here have done, they too would support you. We have been POW's for more than two years now and it is our sincere desire for a speedy and successful conclusion of hostilities in Korea for the benefit of all mankind.

* * *

IT is with a feeling of pride that I write this letter to you. Proud that our country is being represented in this conference which is working for such lofty goals. Being represented in this conference is an acknowledgement that the American people have a will for peace and are willing to work for that end.

I wish to extend to you my congratulations and wish you every success in your future work. The resolutions and actions made at this conference are of vital interest to all of us who long to return to our loved ones. May God bless your efforts with success.

* * *

I TAKE pleasure in expressing my heart's desire for an end to the Korean conflict and a "Five Power" peace conference in order that both societies could come to a mutual agreement on issues concerning the world, and the peace in it.

Through your efforts I am sure that you can help us greatly in our desire for an armistice in Korea. Being POW's now for 17 months we would like more than our hearts can express to be once again back with our loved ones and take up the peaceful life we once led.

## *American POW's Want Peace . . .*

PEACE to me means more than just going home. It means staying home the rest of my life and living and working in harmony with all the peoples of the world. It is because of this simple desire that I write to congratulate you and wish you all the success possible.

* * *

WE as American POW's appreciate your concern in trying to bring about a peaceful settlement to this Korean conflict and promoting world peace. We realize that free trade, cultural intercourse and cooperation between governments is the only way that world peace can be attained. We wish you and your colleagues all the success possible in your struggle for world peace.

* * *

JUST a few words to express my thanks and offer you my full support in your role as representative of the peace-loving people of the United States to the coming peace conference. All of us prisoners of war are most desirous of an immediate armistice in Korea as we are very anxious to return to our loved ones. Not only do we wish to have a cease-fire in Korea but we also most earnestly hope for a peaceful co-existence and cooperation between all the nations of the world. I sincerely believe this is possible with more and more common people of the world speaking out for peace.

* * *

I WOULD like you to know that you have my wholehearted support in your drive for peace. It's funny to be writing to people you never met, but because we want the same thing —world peace—I think all of us common people should unite. It is not because I am a POW that I desire peace. It is because I myself, and I know this applies to all other POW's, am tired of the wholesale killing which is now going on. It is not I who am the only mother's son here in Korea. There are many mothers and loved ones all over the world who are weeping. I believe if more people like you can help the common people unite, there can be an end to hostilities in Korea.

*After being away 13 years*

# I VISIT MY OLD HOME

*by Finlay MacKenzie*

MY last look at Tientsin had been in the disastrous summer of 1939 when Japanese militarists were riding high and we were enjoying the full benefits of their "Co-prosperity Sphere" with the city under several feet of filthy flood water.

The train from Peking was the fast express that makes the run in just under two hours. I remembered the train journeys in the old days; the mad scramble for seats and the filth and confusion everywhere. Now we were riding in spotless comfort on a streamlined express, and my fellow passengers were not millionaires or high government officials but ordinary Chinese working men.

As we pulled into Tientsin the friendly voice on the loudspeaker hoped we were not too tired after our journey, and that they could be of service to us again when next we traveled.

During my whole stay in Tientsin I was impressed with the importance that the Chinese people attach to the cause of peace. As a peace delegate I found myself treated as an honored and respected guest and I was given every facility to see and do whatever I liked.

As we were driving from the station I saw once again the monstrous palaces that had been put up in the old days by various warlords who had fled from the anger of their people to the protection of the foreign concessions. There were the same towers and domes and high surrounding walls studded with broken glass. I asked what they were used for now that the warlords were gone, and we stopped to find out. The first

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**FINLAY MACKENZIE**, a teacher from Toronto, with a MA in Oriental history, was a Canadian delegate to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions. The son of missionary parents, he was raised in Tientsin and left there in 1939.

was being used as a primary school, the next was the Municipal Construction Office, and the third, consisting of three separate buildings that some warlord had built for his three sons, was a tuberculosis sanatorium for workers.

The former Country Club, which had been reserved for the more wealthy foreigners (which did not include our family) was now a public club and as we toured the lovely pavilion and gardens and lagoons I doubted that the former occupants had ever seen the club looking so beautiful; and they certainly never enjoyed themselves more thoroughly than those Chinese workers were doing that afternoon.

Some 20 years ago my father invested some money in L'Energie Electrique, a private company generating electric power in Tientsin. We had received several letters from them stating that our dividend checks were waiting for us, so I decided to pay them a visit. We learned that the company was still in private hands and was still paying dividends, and I found my checks waiting for me.

I asked the manager, who was showing us around the plant, how business now compared with the old days before 1949. That, he said, was very easy to answer. Businessmen in the old days were going bankrupt. The only ones who made profits were the illegal speculators and profiteers. Real businessmen like himself had much of their produce seized by the authorities so that the more they produced the more money they lost. Now he was guaranteed a fair price for all the electricity he could produce. In fact, business was so good that he had extended his holdings to include a coal mine and an import-export firm. He could borrow money at a low interest rate from the bank, and he could sell all his imports to a government establishment at a guaranteed profit of three percent. That, he said, was what he called doing business.

I told him that I had heard that Chinese businessmen were being terrorized by the Communists and that many had been driven to suicide. He said laughingly, "Do I look as if I had committed suicide?" He did not. Life was obviously agreeing with him just fine.

OUR family had always attended the Union Church while in Tientsin, and now a former minister of that church, a Canadian, is telling people at home that members of his old congregation are being persecuted because of their faith and "had been robbed of millions of dollars by the present Chinese government." I had never heard of any millionaires among the congregation during my 10 years' attendance at the church, but I decided I had better take a closer look.

Since the congregation had been made up almost exclusively of foreigners I rather expected to see the church closed down now that many foreigners had left; but the church was still there and we found the present minister, the Rev. Chen Hsi-san, in the vestry. The sun was streaming in through the high gothic windows and the Sunday School had exactly the same smell of floor wax and hymn books that I remembered so well.

Like myself, Mr. Chen had never heard of any millionaires in the congregation, past or present. Still less had he heard of any persecution. On the contrary, he was very emphatic in stating that he and other Christians in Tientsin are not only enjoying full freedom of religion but are receiving the full support of the government in carrying out their religious activities. Two members of the municipal government are Christians, and during the last two years the church's activities have increased so that now they not only have their regular Sunday services but hold two evening services on weekdays as well.

Mr. Chen gave me a letter in which he tells of his experiences as a Christian minister in new China. I hope that it will be published in our *Canadian United Church Observer*.

Children receive excellent care at this typical child health center.

This newly-asphalted street was formerly a muddy lane.

MY chief interest in revisiting Tientsin was to see how our old home at 70 Cambridge Road had survived the war years. I had heard that it had been sold to a big Kuomintang official and had later been abandoned, so I feared the worst. But when we finally rounded the corner off Racecourse Road there was the same old red brick wall and cast iron gate. The house itself had seen some hard times. Some of the brickwork had begun to crumble and our former flower garden was now a patch of flat bare ground.

A young woman in neat blue uniform came down the drive to meet us and introduced herself as Miss Yao Ai-hsien, Superintendent of the Second Orphanage, Tientsin Branch of the Chinese People's Relief Administration. As soon as she heard who I was she invited us all inside.

Miss Yao told us that the house had stood deserted for several years while the plumbing and heating systems had gone to pieces. Just one month ago the government had taken it over and given it to the orphanage. Already they had repaired the plumbing and heating systems, fixed up the windows and redecorated.

The hallway still held some of the gloom of an abandoned house, but as soon as we opened the door to our big front room the gloom disappeared. The sunshine was flooding through the open doors and about 20 little toddlers in bright cotton quilted clothes and neat white aprons were playing with toys, and running about and sitting down with sudden thumps, in the way that is peculiar to two-year olds the world over. Ours had been a large and happy family, but I don't think that the old house had ever seen such a large and happy family scene as this.

The dining room had its little circular tables and by the window were tiny washstands with a towel beside each basin.

Upstairs were the bedrooms with their rows of neat cribs. My bedroom had been taken over by six young babies all under six months. Several of them had been very undernourished when they arrived at the orphanage, but now they were all as plump as little partridges.

Miss Yao told us that there were 53 children in the orphanage, all of them under three years of age. Other orphanages take care of age groups up to 15 years. She said that the Chinese government is not only able to take care of all its orphan children but is getting ready to receive Korean war orphans as well. There is a staff of 23 trained nurses, dieticians and workers.

THESE are the children of new China receiving all the best that love and care and modern science can provide. I couldn't help remembering the orphan children of old China who had suffered so terribly and died by the thousands. And I felt terribly proud that our old home was playing such a noble part in building the new China that loves and cares for its children.

We peace workers do not take it upon ourselves to approve or condemn the political system of any country. But we do take upon ourselves the great task of telling the truth as we see it. Everything I have seen in China has convinced me that the Chinese people not only need peace and want peace with all their hearts, but they are working tremendously hard to build a peaceful and happy country in which war shall never be seen again.

## *NURSERIES INCREASE*

BEFORE liberation there were only 58 nurseries in Shanghai. Today there are 458, caring for a total of 17,800 children. One hundred and fifty-one of the nurseries cater to women factory workers. In the Shanghai suburban areas, there are 16 permanent rural nurseries in addition to 190 temporary harvest-time nurseries.

*India-Pakistan delegates reach agreement at peace conference on*

# Kashmir Dispute

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ONE of the outstanding achievements of the recent Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference in Peking was the Indian and Pakistan delegations' joint declaration calling for a peaceful solution of the long-drawn-out Kashmir dispute.

The dispute arose in 1947, when Britain partitioned India, leaving hundreds of principalities to declare allegiance either to Pakistan or to the Indian Union. Kashmir's Hindu prince elected to join the Indian Union, while Pakistan claimed the predominantly Moslem 84,000-square-mile state. Sheikh Abdullah of Kashmir organized a reform government, the prince fled, and the state was invaded by British-led and equipped tribesmen.

War continued against the people of Kashmir, who wished to decide their own affairs. India referred the dispute to the United Nations, which in 1950 sent "mediators" to Kashmir, who carried on protracted negotiations but achieved no settlement. Meanwhile armed struggle continued, bitterness increased between India and Pakistan, and the Anglo-Americans took advantage of unsettled conditions to build air bases in Kashmir.

In Peking the peace delegates of both countries, directly representing their peoples, and of a variety of backgrounds and religious and political convictions, were able to reach a basis of agreement on this problem. The Indian delegation, headed by Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, ex-Congress Party leader, included both Congress and opposition Members of Parliament. Muslim leader Pir Manki Sharif headed the Pakistan delegation, which also included Members of Parliament.

The *Review* feels that this example of agreement reached by men of good will, on a question so far found "insoluble" by outsiders with ulterior interests, is of great significance. We therefore print the statement given us by Pakistan delegate Mir Abdul Qayyum, lawyer and member of the Punjab Parliament, together with the joint declaration itself and excerpts from Dr. Kitchlew's speech at the closing session of the peace conference.

## *PAKISTAN SAYS:*

LET me frankly state that before coming here we had many misgivings about the real situation in China, because of the constant propaganda of slander in the press. But the peace conference has been a brilliant success, and we were overwhelmed with the genuine regard and affection of the Chinese people.

From my point of view the highlight of the conference was our declaration, made jointly with the Indian delegation, on Kashmir. It is well known that Kashmir is the main bone of contention between India and Pakistan today. For fear of war over this question, both countries are budgeting large sums for arms. While the UN has been playing with this question for four years, it has used diplomatic methods to add fuel to the fire and increase the bitterness between both peoples.

The people of my country are thoroughly disappointed with the Anglo-American rulers, and the All-Pakistan Muslim League, our biggest party, recently passed a resolution to that effect. However, the coming together of the India and Pakistan delegations under the auspices of the peace conference and submitting a joint declaration on the question of Kashmir is almost a miracle. It will have far-reaching effects and I have every hope that the dispute will be settled amicably and peacefully.

* * *

AS we have had the misfortune of living under British rule for about 200 years we have great sympathy for the sufferings the Chinese people have gone through, and it gives me immense happiness to see them now free from domestic and foreign oppression.

During my stay here I have seen boys and girls, men and women singing and dancing, the expression of real freedom and democracy. The enthusiasm and joy I saw during the National Day celebrations will ever live in my memory. I have no adequate words to describe it; it was a sight for the gods.

The crowded reading rooms and libraries and the village schools are signs of the people's great urge toward a new life. Given five years of peace, I have no reason to doubt that the Chinese people's great talents and capacity for hard work will make their country the strongest and noblest in the world. Long live peace and long live the friendship between the peoples of China and Pakistan!

— **MIR ABDUL QAYYUM**

## *INDIA SAYS:*

DR. Kitchlew, reviewing the work of the conference, the "exchange and clash of opinions between people of widely different views on every possible issue," which had resulted in unanimity on the resolutions adopted, continued, "Could such agreement, such mutual understanding be possible on any other platform in the world? I say, No. It is only the movement for peace which can achieve this miracle . . . which inscribes on its banners the advice to seek out and emphasize issues and words which unite, and avoid those which divide . . .

"I know I speak on behalf of all of you," he added, "when I say that our conference could never have gone through its work so smoothly and efficiently, had it not been held in this great bastion of freedom and peace—the city of Peking . . . "

Enumerating the achievements of the conference, Dr. Kitchlew mentioned the mighty demonstration of peace on a

## *JOINT DECLARATION ON KASHMIR:*

THE Pakistan and Indian Delegations to the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions have met together to discuss common problems in an atmosphere of good will and friendship inspired by their united urge to preserve world peace.

We declare our firm conviction that all outstanding issues between India and Pakistan, without any exception can and must be settled by peaceful means.

We consider that the continued friction between the two countries constitutes a serious danger to the peace of Asia and the whole world, and provides an opportunity for imperialist powers to intervene in our affairs, to the detriment of both countries. . .

We, therefore, declare that it will be our constant endeavor to promote good will and friendship between our two countries and peoples through all possible means, including many-sided cultural exchanges and development of trade. . .

The two delegations view with concern the manner in which the supposed efforts of the commissions and representatives appointed by the United Nations to solve the Kashmir question resulted in a serious widening of the gulf between our two countries. The unmistakable purpose of the Anglo-American powers in the Kashmir dispute is to intensify Indo-Pakistan conflicts with a view to making both countries subservient to them. This situation endangers the sovereignty of both countries. . .

regional basis at a most critical juncture in history; the resolutions arrived at, which will strengthen the peace movement; and the strengthening of the ties of friendship between countries.

"I need here mention," he continued, "only one achievement of this conference—an achievement very dear to my own heart . . . I refer to the Joint Declaration of the Indian and Pakistan delegations.

Asking for hard and fast work to strengthen the peace movement, Dr. Kitchlew said, "Let us prepare to fight back the lying propaganda of those who seek to use us for their wars. Let us spread the true message of Peace so that the peoples may not be deceived any longer . . . Let us go back to our lands with the message of this conference and popularize it on the widest possible scale . . . Let us go back with the warm memory of the love and kindness and friendship which has filled this conference . . . "

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We recognize that it is the right of the entire people of Jammu and Kashmir state alone, to determine their own fate and future, and they should be guaranteed the opportunity to exercise this right freely. We appeal to the people of India and Pakistan to take immediate practical steps to insure that the people of entire Jammu and Kashmir state are enabled to determine their future destiny freely . . .

The Indian and Pakistan Delegations are confident that all lovers of peace in both our countries will agree, whatever be their other differences, that this is the best way to solve the Kashmir problem.

The two delegations suggest that the representatives of the peace movements in India and Pakistan should meet jointly to exchange opinions with a view to paving the way for a just solution of Kashmir and other outstanding issues.

Signed:

*India*

Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew.
Gyan Chand (former economic adviser to Govt.).
Ravi Shanker Vyas (noted follower of Gandhi).
Romesh Chandra (All-India Peace Council).

*Pakistan*

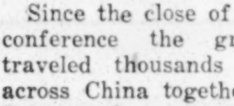
Pir Manki Sharif (Muslim leader).
Shaukat Hayat Khan (businessman, MP).
Ataur Rahman (lawyer).
Mir Abdul Qayyum (lawyer, MP Punjab).

# "Ho Ping Wan Sui!"

## (LONG LIVE PEACE!)

INTO the Canton railway station, before dawn, rolled a train carrying nearly 90 delegates who had attended the Peace Conference of the Asian and Pacific Regions held in Peking early in October. The group of delegates were from six different nations, and they called their train the Peace Train.

Since the close of the peace conference the group had traveled thousands of miles across China together. From Peking they went first to China's industrial heart in the Northeast, then south into the rich Yangtze valley to Nanking, then back across the Yangtze River to North Kiangsu to see the miracle of flood control on the turbulent Huai River, and from there to a new Shanghai and beautiful Hangchow. Now the Peace Train had brought them to Canton in south China, their final stop before the border four hours away, Hongkong, and then back to their homelands.



The Peace Train pulled into Canton at four in the morning on November 7, a warm morning, the sky filled with bright stars. Some of the Burmese and Indian delegates were going on directly to the border, while the others would remain in Canton a few days before leaving China.

As they stepped off the train, these visitors from afar were greeted by thousands who had assembled at the station, singing songs of peace, the songs of new China. "Ho ping wan sui!" (Long live peace!), the phrase which the delegates had learned so well and which they would spread far and wide, resounded through the huge station.

Bright-eyed children, smiling and breathless with excitement, rushed up to the visitors with bouquets. Such welcomes were no longer a novelty to these peace travelers, who had been greeted warmly all over China; but this final welcome from the children and people of Canton will perhaps be the longest remembered by the men and women from Australia, Burma, India, Indonesia, Pakistan and New

Zealand who had come to China because they wanted peace for the whole world.

Arm in arm with the youngsters, they walked through the crowds of cheering onlookers and into the waiting room, gaily decorated with peace posters and Picasso's dove. There was still a half hour before those who were going directly to the border would leave, and tea, fruits and Cantonese cakes were served. The big station clock showed only a little after 4:30 in the morning but it could just as well have been mid-day with a bright sun overhead.

NOW came the time for departure; the crowds outside the waiting room sang and cheered and those who were leaving began to bid farewell to their companions of the past three weeks. There was not much that could be said, as newly-found friends who had become old friends clasped hands firmly; some hastily exchanged addresses.

One by one the Burmese and Indians left the waiting room and walked back to their train, amidst the roaring cheers from their Chinese well-wishers, while the other delegates followed onto the platform for a final good-bye.

During the few minutes remaining before the Peace Train pulled out brown men and white men shook hands and embraced, while an Indian woman, standing on the car steps, wept quietly, and among all the delegates few eyes remained dry. They had come a long way together in the month since the peace conference, and soon all would be on their way home to tell their fellow-countrymen of the widespread desire for peace they had seen so vividly expressed by the delegates of more than 40 countries at Peking; and they would tell of all they had learned in new China, of the new spirit of its people, of their firm desire for peace.

As in every just cause, the fight for peace can be won only by unity. Here at the Canton station in the early morning hours, though the sky was still dark, the solidarity of peoples of many lands shone bright on the faces of these delegates waving to each other as the Peace Train slowly moved out. "Ho ping wan sui!" sounded from those on the train and their fellows on the platform, and from the thousands of Chinese gathered in the station, over the booming band, re-echoed "Ho ping wan sui!"

—*JULIAN SCHUMAN*

# Letter from Fushun

BUFF-COLORED bricks are one of the symbols of the Northeast, symbol of the great construction work going forward in this industrial heart of the country. Just as in the factory-filled city of Shenyang (Mukden) itself, so all along the road to Fushun appears the evidence of construction in the form of newly-built factories and workers' housing projects. Great piles of the buff-colored bricks were ready to be put into new buildings or were going into the walls of partly completed structures.

Riding over the little more than 20 miles of road from Shenyang to Fushun on a bright autumn day, we went through rolling countryside interspersed with mile after mile of fields of harvested *kaoliang* (sorghum) and millet. From a distance, the tall and neat stacks of grain waiting to be threshed looked like clusters of American Indian tepees.

We passed typical Northeast villages, where bright red peppers and yellow corn were drying in the sun, hanging from doors and spread on the roofs. Our car sped past long rows of lush green cabbages, past whitewashed walls bearing the Chinese words, "Long live peace!" The old style paper windows of village houses were at least half replaced by glass, unheard-of in days gone by; and here and there the buff of new brick showed amidst ancient tiled roofs—a new building, perhaps a village store, a small factory or three-storied house.

FUSHUN is an industrial city of 350,000, the style of its buildings still recalling the days of Japanese occupation. But this is only a superficial memory of those times, a sharp contrast to the many changes which have been brought about here since the end of the Kuomintang in November 1948.

Coal is the big thing in Fushun, and the mines, in operation for more than 50 years, are big by any standards. The Japanese drained China of its coal and the KMT managed to demolish the installations so thoroughly that by the time Chiang was driven out, the area was practically derelict. But today the mines are going full blast and production has passed the peak of Japanese rule.

The past four years have brought a new deal to the people of Fushun. From 1948 there has been a steady rise in production, while production costs have been cut 40 percent. Wages have been stabilized and they buy more than ever before, and the workers benefit from safety devices, welfare measures, labor insurance, clinics and nurseries. Houses for workers are going up, and already 40 percent of Fushun's workers live as they never dared dream of before, in new brick houses, with large well-lighted rooms, good furniture and bathrooms. All this has turned an old Fushun saying into an anachronism: "When you come here, you've got to sell all your things; you'll change your new blanket for an old one, and the old one for a gunny sack."

Fushun is typical of the Northeast, with its throbbing spirit of vast development, a development which means that for the first time the great resources of the area are being used for the good of all the people. The open face mine, the second largest in the world, is important; but more important still, the miners are for the first time able to live decent lives, and their children are attending school. Formerly the miners hardly knew where their next meal was coming from, and it was

**A corner view of the large oil refinery in Fushun where shale from the nearby open coal mine is refined into 15 different products.**

An 84-year-old miner at the home for old workers in Fushun.

almost unheard of for their children to go to school.

FROM the open mine comes coal and the shale which goes to the nearby oil refinery in Fushun. Operation was begun in 1932, and under the Japanese, part of the workers were conscripted laborers. When Chiang Kai-shek's KMT came in after VJ-Day the plant began to deteriorate steadily as the result of graft, negligence and outright looting. By the time of liberation it was operating spasmodically at only 10 percent of capacity. One of the foremen, with whom I toured the plant, told me of the chaos left behind by the KMT. Today it is turning out 15 products, including gasoline, oils, paints and wax, sulfates for fertilizers, and cement from the shale residue. The workers get bonuses for topping quotas or discovering new methods, and they work eight hours a day instead of 12 to 15 as in the past. The refinery works three shifts, 24 hours a day.

Fushun looks after its young and its aged too. The city has 44 creches and nurseries, and I visited one of the latter, on a hillside near a park, which was opened in July 1951. The parents of the nursery's 100 children pay only two-thirds of the cost of the food; all other facilities, including medical care, are supplied by the Bureau of Labor Insurance.

On another hillside is a modern two-storied building which is now a workers' rest home. Built for Japanese officials, who wrecked it before they left, it remained a hulk under the KMT. After liberation it was repaired and an extension was added.

The rest home has 140 beds, and soon 80 more will be added. Its airy rooms with big windows overlook the beautiful countryside. I talked to a 26-year-old worker who had spent a month at the home and was going to stay another month. A miner, he received his regular salary and paid only one-third the cost of his food, a nominal amount and less than it cost to eat at home.

We also visited a home for the aged, who had been exploited and starved by both the Japanese and the KMT. Today their life of toil and hardship is over, and they can end their days in comfort, I talked to Jai Yu-lin, 76, who had worked in a machine tool factory for 30 years. His hands were gnarled and he was almost deaf; but when I asked him how he liked the home he smiled and waved his hand around the freshly-painted room, pointing to the two comfortable looking beds, the easy chair and the flowers on the table. In his Northeast accent, he said it was impossible to compare it with his former life, when for many years he had had to share a smaller room with five others. We walked to the club-room, where old men were sitting and reading and playing checkers. Outside, a newly built hothouse caught the last rays of the afternoon sun.

The fact that old men like Jai Yu-lin have a place such as this in which to spend their last years is a sign of the times, not only in Fushun, but in all of China. Nobody claims that there are enough homes as yet; the heritage of the past, when old workers were simply tossed on the scrap-heap, is not overcome in a day. But more homes are being built, and the time is not too distant when every over-aged worker in need of a home will have one.

— J.S.

A workers' rest home in Fushun once housed Japanese officials and was left in ruins by the KMT.

# Art Treasures of the Tunhuang Caves

THE famous "Thousand Buddha Caves" are situated a few miles southeast of the city of Tunhuang, which lies outside the Great Wall on the old silk road to the west, in the most western part of Kansu province. From the Han to the Tang Dynasty (100 B.C.—906 A.D.) Tunhuang was an important commercial and cultural center.

The first few of the caves were excavated at San Wei Shan by a monk in 366 A.D., and they were added to until the Yuan Dynasty, when there were more than 1,000.

The walls and roofs of most of the caves were covered by murals, which, if joined together, would extend 15 miles. Buddhas, in terracotta, stucco and bronze, were numbered in the tens of thousands. Outside the caves were the great temples where religious texts, embroideries, scrolls and banners were kept.

From the epoch of the Five Kingdoms to the Yuan Dynasty (960—c.1260 A.D.) the times were very unsettled. During the conflicts that raged many of the temples and caves were destroyed and the monks in charge dispersed, burying many priceless manuscripts before they left. Over the years earthquakes and dust took their toll, and when the Tunhuang Research Group took over the care and upkeep of the caves after liberation, it was found that 470 caves of murals were intact.

In 1900 the monk Wang Yuan-lo, who lived in one of the temples, discovered in the temple yard a sealed cave. Measuring about 5 by 9 by 5½ feet, it was full of manuscript rolls, temple instruments, notebooks, rubbings, Buddhas, drawings on silk and wood, and embroideries.

This collection covered the period from the Northern Wei until the Northern Sung (about 995 A.D.), the manuscripts consisting of religious writings, books on etiquette and customs, geography, medicine, astrology, novels, lyrics, Tang poems and essays, letters, records of accounts, court proceedings, census figures, and other subjects. The books were written in Tibetan, Indian and several other languages besides Chinese.

The find was of inestimable value, but the Ching (Manchu) rulers ignored it. The monk remained in sole charge, and when he went into the city to beg support from the officials and rich landlords he would take a few of the things to present to his benefactors.

If many of the treasures of Tunhuang were lost in this way, even more were taken from China by foreigners. The Opium War exposed the weakness and corruption of the Ching Dynasty to the world, and a host of foreign adventurers descended upon China in search of spoils.

ONE of these was the British explorer Aurel Stein. Sent to Sinkiang and Kansu, he heard of the valuable find that had been made at Tunhuang, and went there immediately.

Greatly excited by the treasure, he coupled insistence with bribery, overcame the monk's scruples and "purchased" a considerable quantity of manuscripts, drawings and embroidery. Stein later wrote a book about his adventures, describing how the monk was prevailed upon to bring a few manuscripts from the room, which was filled with them, and to let him and his secretary examine them.

Immediately realizing their great value, Stein examined more of the manuscripts. Bound in canvas, they were in a good state of preservation, as were the pictures, painted on silk. Trying to justify himself, Stein wrote that he wondered how many of the manuscripts, which the monk was taking such poor care of, he could "save;" and then went on to say that he was very happy because the monk esteemed his treasure so lightly, and that by controlling his own excitement he confirmed the monk's low estimate of it.

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**There has been a nationwide revival of interest during the past three years in the art storehouse of the "Thousand Buddha Caves," near Tunhuang in Kansu province. An exhibition of these art treasures from China's ancient past has toured the country, and many Tunhuang motifs have been successfully used by handicraftsmen in cloisonné and other work. This article by the Tunhuang Research Group, telling of the carrying away of many historical and artistic objects from the caves, appeared in the *Kansu Daily* and was translated by Max Wilkinson.**

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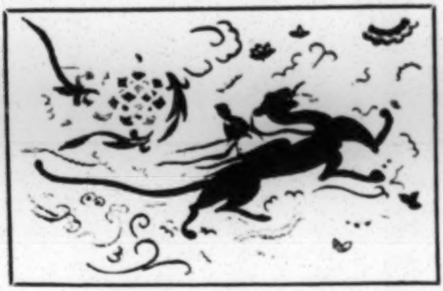


**Sui period (581-617 A.D.)**

For a time the old monk was apprehensive as to whether the local officials would permit the removal of so many of the things; but the local gentry were not in the least interested in ancient relics. Each night for seven nights Stein's secretary brought loads of manuscripts and drawings to his camp, and 10 months later 24 cases of manuscripts and five cases of drawings and embroidery reached London. No wonder Stein gave his secretary so much credit for the success of the venture.

Stein was typical of those who came to China and carried off her ancient treasures, while they sneered at the Chinese as "uncivilized" and lacking in culture. In 1914 he returned to Tunhuang and carried off five more cases of manuscripts, and in 1919 he received a knighthood in recognition of his success.

AFTER Stein's first raid in 1907, much interest was aroused in the Tunhuang caves, and in 1908 Professor Pelliot went to Tunhuang to see what he could unearth. In the 10 cases he took away with him were the most valuable of those left by Stein. Pelliot, however, did Stein one better: before he left, he destroyed some of the murals.

In 1912 the Japanese government sent a group to Tunhuang, who took away 500 manuscript rolls; but by this time the Manchu Government had awakened somewhat and decreed that the remaining manuscripts should be brought to Peking. However, on the way the carts were so pillaged by the officials that those in charge, in order to make up for the loss, divided the remaining rolls so as to equal the number with which they had started out. At present, 8,600 pages of these writings are in Peking.

Although everything movable at Tunhuang had thus been stolen or taken to Peking, foreigners were still attracted to the caves. In 1924 an American, Warner, finding no manuscripts, stole the very paintings from the walls; he used adhesive tape to remove 26 of the best murals, in some places actually cutting away pieces of the cave wall to secure parts of some of the murals intact. The scars left by Warner's depredations can be seen today in the caves numbered 320, 323 and 329.

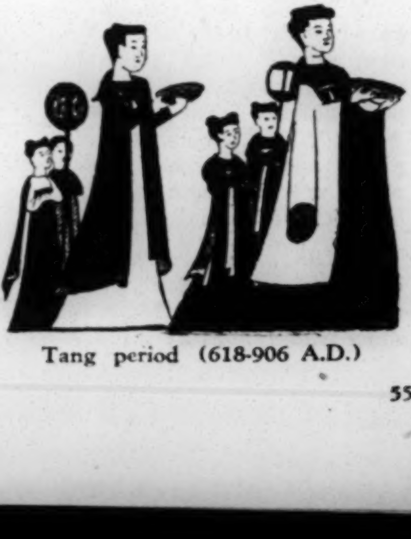
Warner also made off with some beautiful Tang Dynasty statuary, including a Buddha from cave 328, which was the best example of Tang art at the caves. But when he returned to the US with his prizes, his backers were disappointed that he had brought so little, and it was arranged that he should try again the following year.

THE 1925 expedition was better equipped than the first, and Warner was especially keen to secure the mural from cave 285, a painting of the Northern Wei period. Although the government cared little that the cultural heritage of the nation was thus being looted, the people living in the area thought differently, and refused to let him live at the caves.

Followed everywhere at Tunhuang, the frustrated Warner went to Kinchuan, where the local people were also prepared for him; they locked up members of his group and demanded a ransom and an apology for his actions. Going on to Ansi, he was told there that he could stay only a few days. In this way he was forced to abandon the project.

When the People's Liberation Army reached Tunhuang in September 1949, the decades of pillage to which the treasures of the "Thousand Buddha Caves" had been subjected came to an end, and their remaining riches came into the hands of the people of China. In 1950, the Tunhuang Research Group was organized by the government to protect and study the caves, and in 1951 this group received a prize for its work.

In Paris and London, Chinese scholars are not even permitted to see the things stolen from their country, whereas in China the nation's cultural heritage is being protected and used in the development of the arts for the benefit of the whole people. Exhibitions of Tunhuang paintings shown all over the country give the people a greater understanding of their culture and history, and determination to protect their native land from any recurrence of the wholesale robbery which was permitted to occur in the past.



Tang period (618-906 A.D.)

# *REVIVAL OF SOOCHOW'S HANDICRAFT INDUSTRIES*

• • • *Hung Yeh-tze*

SOOCHOW, lying about 45 miles west of Shanghai on Taihu Lake, has long been famous as one of China's handicraft centers. In its best days, the city's handicraft workers were employed in more than 60 trades. However, in the 'thirties and 'forties these trades declined, because of excessive capital exploitation and the huge influx of foreign goods.

As a result of the help extended by the people's government to the handicraft workers in the form of production loans and supplying raw materials, handicraft trades have made a rapid recovery. Compared with 1948, there are now almost twice as many workshops and workers, who now number nearly 70,000. About half of the city's enterprises are handicraft trades, which provide employment for one-fifth of the inhabitants.

In 1951, the average increase in output was 30 percent, compared with 1950, and some trades, such as the making of abacuses, chess sets, shell buttons, musical instruments, embroidery, flowers and velvet, enjoyed an unprecedented boom.

Orders poured in so fast last year that some trades found great difficulty in filling them, as for example the abacus trade, which received an order worth ¥400,000,000 from the Shanghai General Goods Corporation. The difficulty was lack of capital, as also experienced by the chess trade when it got an order for 250,000 sets from the Northeast. This problem was solved by government assistance, and the orders were filled.

COMPARED with 1950, increases in production and sales last year were phenomenal. Chess sales rose by 500 percent, shell buttons by 2500 percent — with even bigger orders coming in this year. A newly-developed trade is the manufacture of violins and other musical instruments, production of which went up by four times.

One of Soochow's chief and best known products has been embroidery. At present, more than 70,000 women work at this trade on a part-time basis. The production of elaborate clothes for statues of Buddha, coffin cloths and other extravagant ornaments has declined, but this has been more than offset by the great increase in the output of coverlets, children's clothing, opera costumes, table cloths, pillow cases and other useful articles, which have found wide sale.

The many native products exhibitions held in various parts of the country have stimulated the demand for Soochow's products. Last winter this resulted in contracts for nearly ¥5,000,000,000 with North China and the Northeast alone. In a single transaction last year ¥1,100,000,000 worth of embroidery was sold.

One of Soochow's comparatively little-known industries is the raising of jasmine and other fragrant flowers, chiefly used to scent tea. Last year, as prices for these flowers were raised, cooperatives brought in more than 10,000 *piculs* of flowers, valued at ¥30,000,000,000. The growers have joined cooperatives and higher prices have enabled them to build more than 1,000 greenhouses, in addition to contributing a large sum for national defense and purchas-

Soochow's famous silks drew crowds at the exhibit of China's products in Bombay, India in 1952.

ing victory bonds.

Before liberation, the 70 workshops for hand-woven velvet were practically at a standstill. Since then, the quality of the product has been improved and management is more efficient as a result of the joint operation system. To meet the increasing demand from all parts of the country, the original 100 looms have now increased to more than 700, with a corresponding jump in output.

In addition to the domestic business done, trade relationships have been established with the democratic nations of eastern Europe.

AS the purchasing power of workers and peasants has increased, their demand for articles of daily use has also gone up. The towel and knitting industry, for example, has greatly expanded, with improved organization and better quality of products. Orders for tens of thousands of towels have come in from consumers' cooperatives and state department stores.

The January-May period is usually a slack season for the knitted stocking trade, but this year the local General Goods Corporation placed an order for 50,000 dozen stockings to tide the trade over the slow season. Other trades, such as coir brushes, pots and pans, scales, writing brushes and stonework, have similarly benefited from local cooperatives' heavy buying and placing of orders.

## *ORDERS FOR PRIVATE INDUSTRY*

PRIVATE industry in East China has recently received substantial government orders for products and processing work on the basis of long-term contracts signed with the East China branch of the state-operated China General Goods Corporation.

As a result of recent large-scale purchases made by the corporation, the problem of heavy inventories is ceasing to plague private manufacturers. Advance payments to private industry came to 40 percent of the total value of contracts signed. These orders have enabled most private factories to maintain normal operation during the usual seasonal slack period.

# CHINA NOTES

## Agricultural Production Soars

WITHIN three years, China's farm production has attained or exceeded pre-war levels. In 1949, grain output dropped to three-quarters, and cotton output to little more than half, of pre-war figures, while draught animals decreased by 16 percent and farm tools by 30 percent.

This year, agriculture presents a far different picture. As a result of large-scale government aid to farmers, great conservancy works, and the increase in mutual-aid team organization, total farm output last year exceeded 1949 by more than 50 percent. The following is a summary of basic crop figures:

**GRAIN:** Taking the pre-war level as 100, output in 1950 was 87, in 1951 it was 95, in 1952 it was 109. Compared with 1949, last year's grain production was up 40 percent.

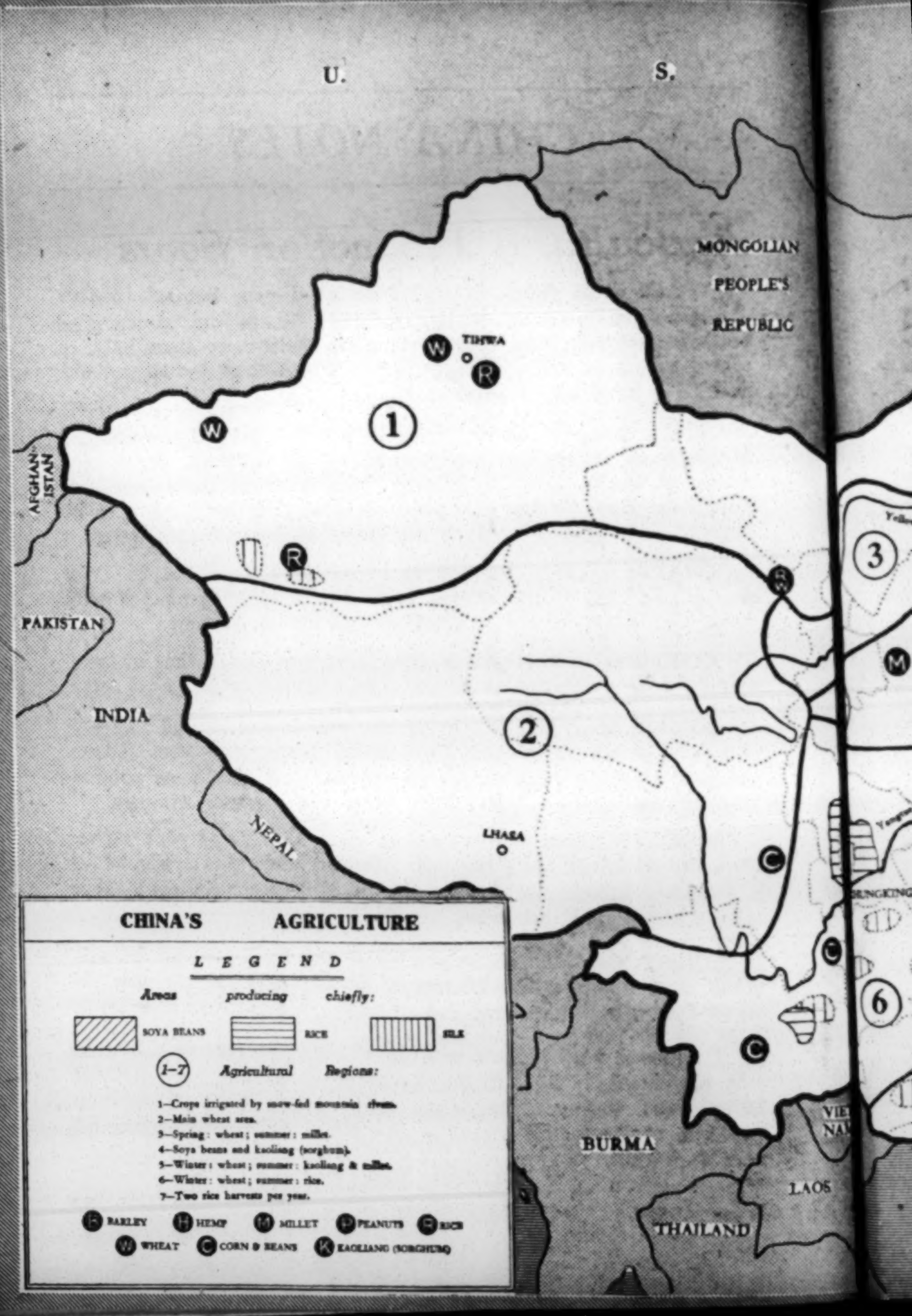
**COTTON:** Last year's cotton crop was double that of 1949, and 55 percent bigger than the best pre-war crop.

**SOYABEAN:** In 1931 soyabean production totaled 11,000,000 tons, which decreased 40 percent during the war. Crops are now climbing back to pre-war levels, with unit area production in some sections more than twice the pre-war average.

**WHEAT:** Last year's bumper crop was 15 percent higher than the excellent 1951 harvest. Highest yield was achieved by a People's Liberation Army unit in Sinkiang province: more than 9,000 pounds per acre.

**LIVESTOCK:** In three years the number of cattle, horses, mules and donkeys has increased 26 percent; sheep have increased 42 percent, nearly reaching the highest pre-war level.

Compared with highest pre-war production, **HEMP** last year was six times, **TOBACCO** nearly three times, and raw **SUGAR** 13 percent higher. Compared with 1950, 1952's **TEA** crop was two and one-half times bigger, **RAW SILK** production 50 percent bigger.


CHINA'S AGRICULTURE

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MONGOLIAN
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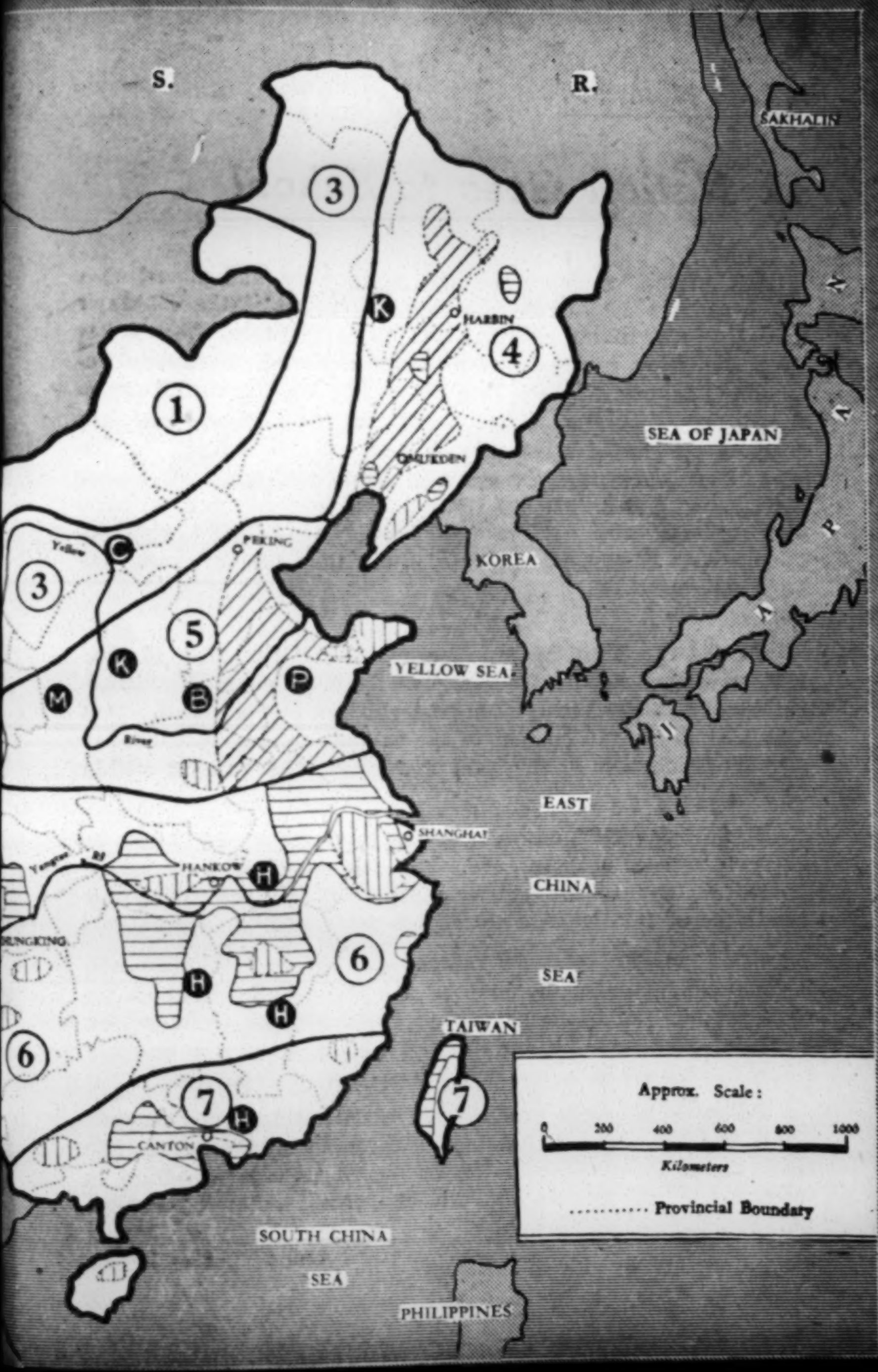
C
BURMA
VIET
NAM
LAOS
THAILAND
L E G E N D
Areas producing chiefly:
SOYA BEANS
RICE
SILK
1–7 Agricultural Regions:
1—Crops irrigated by snow-fed mountain rivers.
2—Main wheat area.
3—Spring: wheat; summer: millet.
4—Soya beans and kaoliang (sorghum).
5—Winter: wheat; summer: kaoliang & millet.
6—Winter: wheat; summer: rice.
7—Two rice harvests per year.
B BARLEY
H HEMP
M MILLET
P PEANUTS
R RICE
W WHEAT
C CORN & BEANS
K KAOLIANG (SORGHUM)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400
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Kilometers
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*China Notes . . .*

# A Nation Goes to School

EDUCATION in China has been reorganized and placed on a broader basis in order to meet the needs of the country's constantly expanding construction. In three years, the number of students has increased and education for all is rapidly becoming a reality. By contrast, during the last days of Kuomintang rule, 90 percent of the population was illiterate and less than 40 percent of school-age children were in school. In the winter of 1949, there were only 191 institutions of higher learning with about 130,000 students, and in round figures, 5,200 high schools with 1,270,000 students, and 346,700 primary schools with 24,200,000 students. Since then the following has been accomplished.

* * *

**PRIMARY SCHOOL** enrollment this fall exceeded 49,000,000, more than double the peak (1946) KMT year. In Shanghai, nearly 95 percent of school-age children are in school. Present plan is that 80 percent of the nation's children will receive primary education in the next five years, 100 percent within 10 years.

**HIGH SCHOOL** enrollment now totals about 3,078,000, or 63 percent more than in 1946. Last fall nearly all high school graduates took college entrance examinations, accounting for two-thirds of total college enrollment (one-third were workers).

**FREE TUITION** in all colleges and universities, beginning last autumn, removed the financial and social barriers which for centuries kept all but a handful of Chinese youth from getting a higher education. In addition, students receive a monthly subsidy for food and, in case of need, other allowances.

**TECHNICAL AND MEDICAL TRAINING** has been stepped up, to end the gap between higher education and practical life that existed in old China. Of the 65,800 students admitted to colleges and universities last fall, 59 percent entered technical schools and departments. More are training as teachers in medicine and natural science.

**ENROLLMENT** in colleges totals 219,700, nearly 70 percent above the top KMT level; 35.4 percent of these students are in engineering, compared with only 18.9 percent of the 1946 enrollment.

**REORGANIZATION** of the broken-down and inefficient higher educational system inherited from the KMT will increase the number of engineering schools from 31 to 47, agricultural colleges from 18 to 33, normal colleges from 30 to 34 and medical colleges from 29 to 32.

**WORKERS AND PEASANTS** are now able to get the education which in the past has always been denied them. More than 20 percent of the nation's college students, 60 percent of the high school students, and 80 percent of the primary school pupils are now of worker and peasant origin. Introduction of the five-year primary school system makes attendance easier for these children, and to increase the number of worker-peasant students in institutions of higher learning, 12 special middle schools were set up for them last year, where concentrated courses are given to prepare them to enter regular college classes.

**SPARE-TIME AND WINTER SCHOOLS** for workers and peasants are in addition to regular schools. More than 3,000,000 workers attend spare-time classes and nearly 50,000,000 peasants study in winter schools, with another 24,000,000 in spare-time schools.

**MORE TEACHERS** are needed to take care of the steady increase in the number of students, especially during the next five or six years. The nation's teacher requirements are enormous: 10,000 college teachers, 100,000 high school teachers, 1,500,000 primary school teachers, and a great number of technical teachers for special classes. Teachers' salaries in 1952 increased, as compared with 1951, by 18.6 percent for college instructors, 25.5 percent for high school teachers, and 37.4 percent for primary school teachers. And for the first time the teachers have their own organization—the China Educational Workers' Trade Union.

## A statement

# To Japanese Scientists

### Joan Hinton

IN memory of the thousands upon thousands of innocent people, of the children, the old people, the men and women of every walk of life who were so ruthlessly murdered, so wantonly burned to death at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I would like to send these few words to the scientists of Japan, through the Japanese delegation at this conference.

As a scientist who worked at the Los Alamos, New Mexico atomic bomb project; as one who touched with my own hands the very bomb which was dropped on Nagasaki, I feel a deep sense of guilt and shame at the part I played in this crime against humanity as a whole, and this crime against the Japanese people in particular.

How was it that I as well as practically every physicist in the United States came to work in one way or another on this horrible weapon of mass destruction during the Second World War? Perhaps my own story could be used as an object lesson to all.

From as early as I can remember I had an insatiable desire to know how the world was put together, and I determined to become a scientist. The more I studied science the more I absorbed the philosophy of "science for science's sake." This philosophy is the poison of modern science. It was due to this misconception, to this separation of science from society, of science from human beings and human lives, that I came to work on the atomic bomb during the war.

I believed as did many of my colleagues, that our job as scientists went only so far as to find out the truths of nature. Anything beyond this, anything to do with the application of the knowledge we scientists discovered, was of secondary concern to us. In our study of pure science, we had no time to concern ourselves with such trifles. The application of science must be left to statesmen and engineers.

And I am ashamed to admit it took the horror of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki to shock me out of this ivory tower of complacency; to shock me into the fundamental realization that there is no such thing as "pure" science; that science has a meaning only in relation to its service to mankind; only in so far as it helps to create a rich and beautiful new world.

I say to those scientists, both in Japan and the United States who even now are still engaged in research on atomic bombs, hydrogen bombs and bacteriological warfare:

**JOAN HINTON**, former Fellow in Physics at the Institute of Nuclear Studies, University of Chicago, came to China shortly after the end of the war, and, for the past few years, she and her husband, an American agricultural specialist, have been working on a livestock breeding farm near Inner Mongolia. In Peking at the time of the peace conference, she joined the US delegation as an observer.

Following a luncheon meeting between the US and Japanese delegations, she drafted a letter to Japanese scientists, intending to send it to the Japanese delegation. When she showed it to some of the US delegates, they urged her to issue it as a formal statement to the full conference.

The reactions to Miss Hinton's statement were quick and significant. Its sincerity and obvious sense brought the entire conference to its feet. Correspondents present cabled it to almost every country in the world.

From the United States, too, there was an immediate reaction. The University of Chicago called in the press and issued a statement. Ignoring the one and only point to the speech—the social responsibility of scientists—the university declared that there was no cause for alarm (and therefore no reason to blame or suspect the university administration) since Miss Hinton did not carry any atom bomb secrets from Chicago to China!

Think again what it is you are doing! You may believe that you are gaining scientific fame by the papers marked "secret" which you are now filing away in the safes of the US Army, but this utterly false and shameful fame is an illusion which will soon be trampled to dust by the hatred of the peoples of the whole world.

I shake the hand of all those who have refused to join in this deadly work, and say — let us work even harder to force the outlawing of atomic bombs, bacteriological warfare, and all weapons of mass destruction!

## *Scientists and Doctors Say . . .*

**TWENTY-SEVEN scientists and doctors who attended the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference signed a statement condemning the use of bacteriological warfare. Excerpts from their statement follow:**

Having examined all the available materials, of high scientific value, on which likewise were based the conclusions of the International Scientific Commission for the Investigation of the Facts Concerning Bacterial Warfare in Korea and China, we are fully convinced that the US armed forces have committed this crime, and hereby strongly denounce this criminal act of misusing science against humanity.

As scientists and doctors we firmly believe that science should be developed for the benefit of mankind and not for wanton destruction

We invite the scientists and doctors of every country in the world to pay attention to the materials which we have studied, so that they too will be convinced of the truth and raise their voices in righteous protest against this abominable crime for which the US government has made itself responsible.

Finally, we demand the immediate ratification and implementation by all countries, without exception, of the Geneva Protocol of June 17, 1925, prohibiting the use of all poisonous and bacteriological weapons.

# A Tale of Two Factories

## JOHN W. POWELL

THIS is the story of two factories, one a hemp weaving mill in the eastern resort city of Hangchow, the other a woolen mill in the northern port city of Tientsin. They have many similarities but in a number of ways they are quite different. They are similar in that both are booming, round-the-clock factories where men and women are working at high speed to supply the manufactured goods which China's expanding economy requires. They are dissimilar in that one is a brand new state-owned factory, while the other is 30 years old and privately-owned.

The state-owned Chekiang Hemp Weaving Factory, despite the newness of its buildings and of much of its machinery, has a history of several years. Back in the mid-thirties the old Kuomintang (KMT) government, in one of its more rational moments, bought enough weaving machinery from England to set up a moderate-sized hemp mill. However, the KMT seemed incapable of further effort. The machinery was indifferently stored away and forgotten.

After Chiang and his corrupt Kuomintang had been chased off to Taiwan, the new government revived plans for the mill. The machinery—badly rusted and with about 20 percent of the parts missing—was unearthed and work begun on restoring it and putting up suitable factory buildings.

Work started in December 1949. All sorts of problems kept cropping up. There was a shortage of engineers experienced in this field, while all workers had to be trained from scratch. However, work went ahead and the factory began operation in August 1950, eight months later.

**This description of two factories was written by the Review's editor, who recently visited several of the major cities of China, in company with the US delegates to the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.**

In the process, both workers and managerial staff learned a great deal about the hemp weaving business. Consequently, when work began on the East Workshop—the second stage of the building plan—in December 1950, a number of improvements were made in machinery and in the manufacturing process.

The new equipment—manufactured by Chinese machinery works—not only enabled the factory to skip one entire processing operation, thus effecting a considerable saving in labor and substantially reducing the time required for production, but also to turn out yarn 30 percent stronger than that manufactured in the first plant. With the completion in October 1951 of this plant, work began on the third and, for the present, final plant.

The Big North Workshop, the machinery for which is also made in China, is now nearing completion and will go into operation early this year. This plant is distinguished not only by improved machinery design, but by its size. It is considerably larger than both the first and second plants combined and will employ 7,000 workers, thus raising the mill's total working force to 10,000 men and women.

There is no unguarded machinery, huge ventilating shafts suck off the dust and hemp particles above the various shredding machines, dust-settling sprayers are standard equipment. The entire factory is air conditioned in summer and centrally heated in winter.

But even more impressive than the factory buildings and the machinery were the rent-free dormitories, the athletic fields, mess halls and other facilities built for the workers. The buildings are spread over an unusually large area, with room for lawns, flower beds and trees around each building. Scattered throughout the site are a number of large open areas which will be landscaped and where athletic fields have already been laid out. Aside from the typically factory-like workshops with their saw-toothed roofs, the whole effect is rather like that of a college campus.

This concern for the well-being of the workers goes beyond providing good working conditions and overall physical surroundings. Three substantial meals are provided by the factory, which also runs a special-diet dining room for underweight or undernourished workers. Food, according to the workers, is above average, with plenty of fish, meat, eggs, chicken, vegetables, rice and bread. Workers on the night shift get a break during which they are served steamed bread and soya bean milk at company expense.

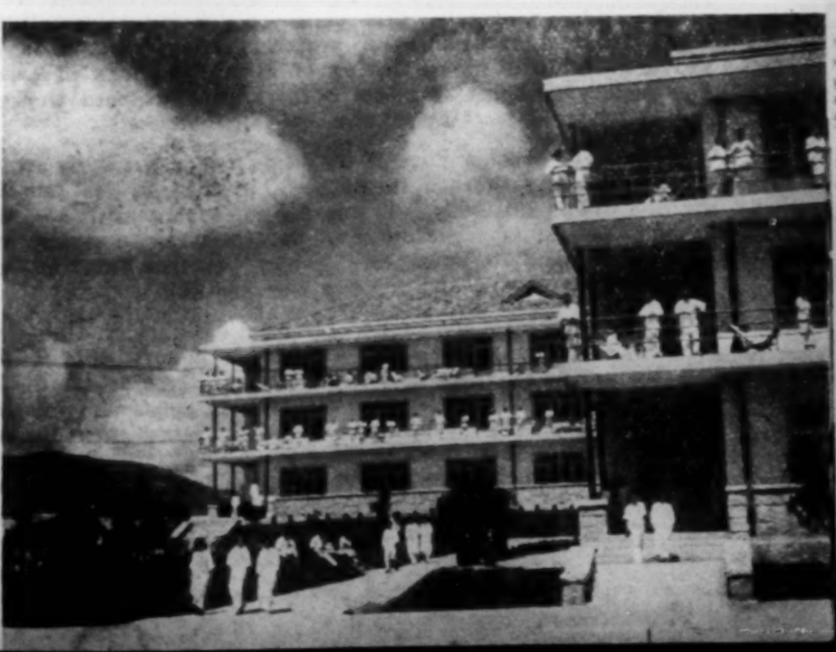
The factory-community also has a cooperative at which prices range from seven to 30 percent less than in the regular stores in town, and a barber-beauty shop where prices are about one-third less than the going price in Hangchow. The People's Bank, the postoffice and the Hsinhua Book Store maintain branches in the compound.

Women workers get 56 days paid maternity leave. When they return to work their children are cared for, if they so desire, in the free creche and, later, nursery run by the factory. Mothers get one and a half hours a day off, with no loss of pay, to nurse their babies. The factory pays a special subsidy to help care for weak babies.

The factory also provides facilities for a variety of education and recreation activities. There is a main library with 6,250 volumes, plus two smaller circulating libraries. There are 129 newspaper reading and current affairs discussion groups with a membership of 2,000 workers, and 307 workers are now participating in the new rapid character learning method by which literacy may be gained relatively quickly. The factory's spare-time technical school has 1,510 worker-students.

The workers have organized a number of recreation clubs which have basketball, volleyball, ping pong, badminton and

Workers' dormitories of the Chekiang Hemp Weaving Factory.



以实際行動迎接「五一」
国際劳動節

Workers from various departments of a state textile mill map out production plan.

gymnastic equipment. They have drama and choral singing groups and a broadcasting system. Dances are held each week.

Under such conditions, the spirit of the workers is understandably high. Overall working efficiency today is three times greater than when the first plant opened in August 1950. Eight hundred rationalization proposals have been made by workers, resulting in the saving of several millions of *yuan*. The factory now has 16 model workers, 815 advanced workers and 12 advanced working groups.

THE Jen Li Woolen Factory in Tientsin is a privately-owned enterprise established in 1922. Since then it has had its ups and downs but today it is working at capacity with no letup in sight, is earning a steady profit and its parent company has begun to expand its operations, opening two new factories—an egg processing plant and a hemp weaving mill.

As the general manager and principal stockholder, Chu Chi-sun, explained to us when we visited his factory, this is the first time in many years that the management could look to the future with confidence. In the past, even in relatively prosperous times, the future was uncertain. When the Japanese occupied Tientsin, they forcibly "bought" Jen Li's products at a dictated price which often did not cover production costs. After the Japanese defeat, the Kuomintang came. The inflation of the currency and the flooding of the China market with American goods nearly drove Jen Li to the wall.

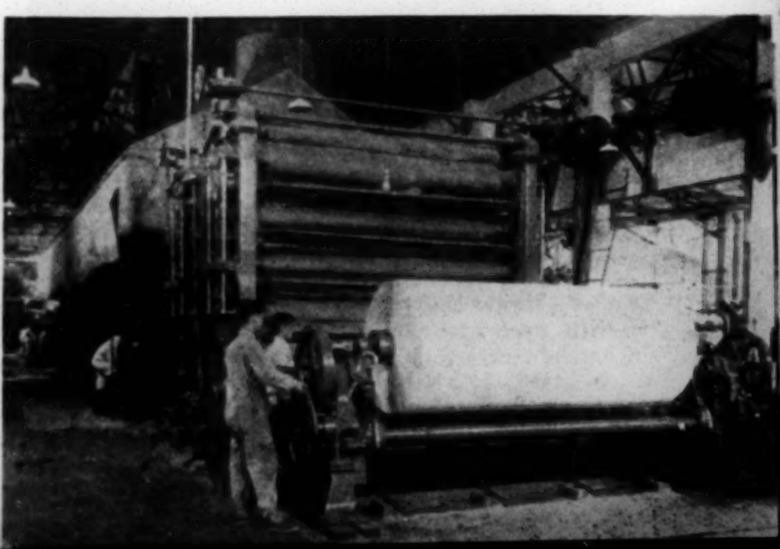
Like many other businessmen and industrialists, the manager of the Jen Li company greeted the new government with mixed feelings. He was glad to see the end of the Kuomintang but at the same time he had many doubts about what was coming.

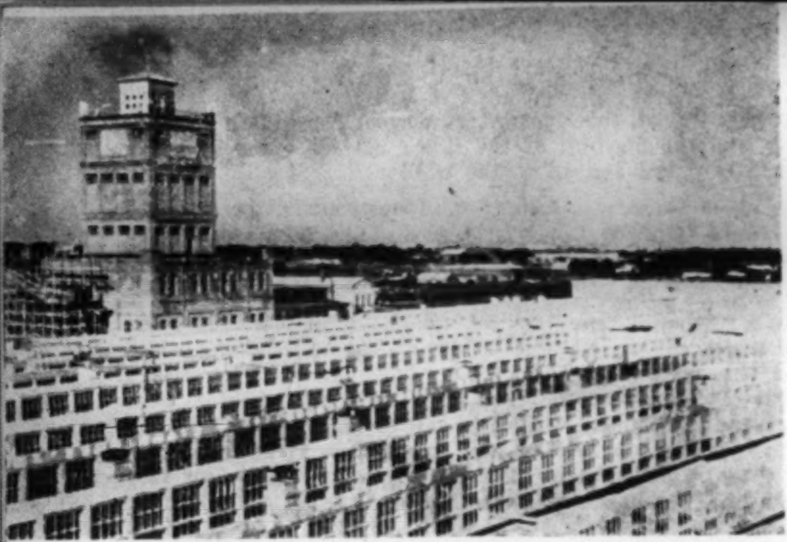
While prospects began to look up almost immediately after the Kuomintang's defeat, the immediate post-liberation period was one of readjustment. The factory had to meet and overcome a number of difficulties. Before Central and South China were liberated, the factory had trouble in getting raw materials and in contacting its full market. It was able to tide over this period largely through government aid in the form of supplies of raw materials and purchases of finished products.

The American-instigated Kuomintang blockade and the later US embargo against China presented new problems. Jen Li was cut off from some of its markets, particularly in the case of its rug weaving factory which lived on exports and which subsequently had to suspend operations. The factory was also cut off from its usual sources of machinery and spare parts.

However, as it worked out, there were also some advantages to be derived from the blockade and embargo. It immediately removed from the market the flood of American goods which at times in the past almost put Jen Li out of business. It also

Rapid development of cultural and educational work puts heavy demands on the paper industry.





A new flax mill, one of the many recent additions to China's industrial plant.

created a demand for various woolen industrial products by factories which formerly depended upon American and western European suppliers. To fill such orders, Jen Li had to install new machinery as its old equipment, designed for producing high grade clothing material, could not turn out the type of goods required by industry.

After considerable discussion between the management and the workers, it was decided to attempt the job right in the factory, adapting some of the machinery, designing new machines themselves and getting it hand-made locally. The job was finally completed and Jen Li is now turning out seamless heavy felt blankets for paper machine rollers and a variety of other industrial woolen products. At present about 70 percent of its output goes to industry.

After inspecting the factory and talking with some of the workers, we had a lengthy question and answer session with the manager. Replying to a question about labor relations, Mr. Chu stated: "Right after liberation I was worried. I thought now that the Communists have come I'll inevitably have labor trouble. However, it wasn't long before I realized that such worries were groundless. The guiding principle for factories in our new society is to develop production but in such a way as to benefit both labor and capital.

"We have a labor-management committee made up of representatives of both management and workers. It meets regularly to discuss and settle any problems which may arise and on the basis of unanimity in our decisions, we have almost always been able to iron out any problems to the satisfaction of both sides. However, if it is impossible to reach agreement, we may refer the matter to the Labor Bureau for mediation. In the almost four years since the liberation of Tientsin, we have had to ask for such mediation only once."

Working conditions in this factory are quite good and, as is the case in all other factories visited, are improving steadily. All the now usual facilities—a nursery for workers' children, athletic fields and equipment, workers' club, co-op, mess halls, special diet kitchen, dormitories, school subsidies for workers' children, complete health, accident, death and old age insurance coverage, educational and recreational facilities, etc.—are there. Wages have risen, now averaging the equivalent of 2,000 eggs or 220 pounds of beef per month.

Toward the end of the discussion, one of the delegates popped the "key" question: What is your profit situation and what will happen to you when socialism finally comes to China?

"We work on a cost-plus system," Mr. Chu replied, "with the rate of profit running between 15 and 20 percent of production costs. We get a higher rate on goods ordered by government organizations, such as factories and state trading companies, as these are the things the country needs, while our rate

These spinners of a state cotton mill have just set a national production record.

創造更多新記錄而努力
16

of profit on the high quality luxury goods we turn out is lower. In addition, we get a special tax reduction on our net profit figure because so much of our output is of needed goods. For instance, the highest rate of tax on net profits is 30 percent, but our tax is 24 percent.

"Net profits after taxes are divided as follows: 10 percent is set aside for reinvestment, or reproduction, as we call it—for additional machinery, plant expansion, etc.—and eight percent for stockholders.

"The remainder is divided into 100 equal parts, with 60 parts going to the owners and managerial staff as bonuses, 15 parts used as bonuses for workers, 15 parts for further improving safety and overall working conditions in the mill and the remaining 10 parts put into a general fund, the disposal of which is decided by our consultative committee. Sometimes we don't spend it all, in which case we carry it forward into the next year's accounts."

Turning to the future, Mr. Chu declared that he had no qualms. "Under New Democracy we have an important role to play in building up our country. The national bourgeoisie is one of the four classes represented in our united front government. It will be some time before our country is sufficiently developed to go into socialism, but when that time comes, I anticipate no difficulties.

"The general living standard will have risen greatly, we'll all be better off then. I'll naturally keep my personal property, including my car and my house. The Jen Li company has opened two new factories since liberation and I expect to go into socialism as the manager of all three, maybe of four or five or even half a dozen by that time.

"I do not have to be concerned about my children's welfare now or in the future. My oldest son is a college professor teaching chemistry, my daughter is teaching piano at the Central Music Conservatory, another son is now studying piano, and my fourth child is in high school. All are making out quite satisfactorily, the two younger ones being members of the Youth League. Their future is assured."

THIS is the story of two factories. It is so typical that virtually the same story could have been written about almost all of the several other state and private factories we visited in Peking, Nanking, Shanghai, Hangchow, Shenyang and Fushun.

A number of conclusions may be drawn from these descriptions. Among them two in particular stand out. First, the system whereby both state and private industry exist side by side obviously works, and apparently works well. Second, China's working men and women have a real stake in the new society and appear capable of accomplishing the country's industrialization in record time.

## *TIENTSIN, 1952*

### *Two Impressions*

in a former concession district

a disconsolate old-time Westerner,
now out of the river that rushes so gaily forward
holding on to memories when men
stood aside for him while he walked with assurance
haughtily, into cool comfort, out of the heat
of a summer's sun.

Today
his bungalow is as ever, as well-kept as ever
though a pedicab instead of a shining car
brings him home for tiffin; he is as carefully
tailored, with chipper shorts, white silk
stockings, yet with no shade of a smile; an
exclamation mark of silent disapproval;
seeing nothing, hearing nothing.

and down amongst the factories

in a cotton mill where workers move so surely
there has come what is to me the revolution
stated in clear, material terms: a new
ventilating system cooling great workrooms,
and the workers lift their heads proudly
and the air moves round their sweating
bodies soothingly, encouragingly, for they

are one with the river, a part of it,
and the wealth they make
comes back to lift them. For them
life is a changing thing, and now
with each change the air is purer, sweeter
in Tientsin.

— *REWI ALLEY*

*A landlord gets his comeuppance*

# Night-Crowing Rooster

*A short story by Kao Yu-pao*

AT evening, when the sky already was very dark, from the fields came a group of men, staggering with weariness. They were the hired hands of the landlord, "Skinner" Jou.

"I'm dead tired!" one of them groaned.

"That rooster is damn queer!" swore another. "He crows every night just when I've fallen asleep. Old Skinner has the same rotten disposition. The minute the bird calls, he's there yapping for us to go up the hill. But dawn doesn't come until after we've been working for a long time."

"He's got money, and the rooster helping him besides," said a third. "He really is lucky."

"What has luck got to do with it?" another peasant demanded. "How come it never crowed early before—only now? There's something fishy going on. I've just got to kill that old bird!"

Still talking, the peasants returned to their quarters. In order to get a little more sleep, they lay down as soon as they finished eating, though a few smoked and chatted a while before retiring.

Kao Yu-pao had been suffering with the "runs" for several days, and before long he had to get up to dash to the privy. On his way back, he looked into the manger to see whether the ox had enough hay. Just then, he noticed a man creeping toward the hen house. There was no moonlight and he couldn't see his face.

At first he thought, "It's a thief. I'd better rouse everybody." Then he decided, "No. This fellow's family has no other way out; that's why he's stealing. If I shout, won't I be harming him? I won't make a sound. If he cleans out the hen house, there won't be any rooster to greet the dawn, and we can get some sleep."

At that moment, the man thrust out his neck and covered his nose with his hand, as though about to sneeze. "Be careful!" Kao thought anxiously. "If Skinner Jou hears you, that'll be bad!" There was still some hay in the manger, and Kao wanted to go back to bed, but at the same time he was afraid to startle the thief. "If I step out, he'll run away, and he'll have made the trip for nothing," Kao mused. "I'd better stay where I am and see who it is." He squatted to watch the fun.

To his surprise, the man made no movement for a long time, then blared out an imitation cock's crow. Kao, puzzled, drew back as the man approached the ox shed, struck a match and peered at the hay in the manger. Kao saw him plainly in the light of the little flare. It was the landlord, Skinner Jou.

"So it's Skinner who's been doing all the crowing in the middle of the night!" muttered Kao. "So he's the old sneak behind this mystery!"

Of course, the real rooster responded to the landlord's call, and soon every cock in the village was crowing. Kao was furious, but he didn't dare reveal himself.

"Everybody up to work on the hill! The rooster is crowing!" bawled Skinner, after which he returned home to sleep.

BACK at the hired hands' quarters, Kao found the men cursing angrily. "Son of a bitch! He doesn't crow early, he doesn't crow late—only right after we get into bed. That bird shouldn't be called 'rooster'!"

"What should he be called?" asked a peasant named Liu.

"The Grim Reaper! If we

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**Kao Yu-pao, 26,** is one of the outstanding writers of worker and peasant origin who have come to the fore within the past few years. Born and raised in a poor peasant's family, he was ill-treated by the landlord for whom he herded swine. Later he worked in a coal mine, and in 1947 he joined the People's Liberation Army. At that time he could write only 100-odd characters, but he studied hard and decided to write a book about his experiences. Encouraged by his comrades and superiors, he finished the first draft of his autobiography, "Kao Yu-pao," last year. The present story, a chapter from the book, appeared in "People's Liberation Army Literature" and was translated by Sidney Shapiro. It is a vivid picture of the hateful cunning of the landlord and the ingenuity of the peasants in outwitting him.

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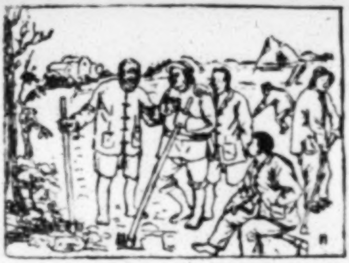
keep on working this way, we'll all be dead of exhaustion in a couple of days!"

"I had just fallen asleep. . ." grumbled one of the men. "I lay down, but I didn't even finish one pipe . . . " said another.

"Wait till I tell them it's all a trick of Skinner Jou!" thought Kao. He sat down and said, "I saved myself a lot of trouble—I haven't even taken my clothes off. Hurry up. I've got a funny story to tell you."



"What's funny? Let's hear it."

"No. I won't tell you now. Wait till we're on the road."

The peasants quickly dressed. Shouldering their hoes, they set out for the hill. "Well, what's the joke?" they questioned Kao. "Speak up." The youngster laughed, and his black eyes sparkled. "Uncles, don't curse the rooster any more. He's not at fault; a man is to blame."

Kao then told them of Skinner Jou's imitation of a cock crow. Liu glared angrily. "No work tonight," he snapped. "When we get to the hill, let's sleep!"

EVERYONE agreed. The sky was still filled with hazy stars when the men reached the fields. They put down their hoes, and after smoking their pipes, stretched out on the ground and went to sleep. Completely exhausted, they were oblivious to the heavy dew soaking through their clothes.

Skinner Jou's family had made its fortune by imitating the crowing of roosters. This precious formula was handed down to Skinner from his great-great-grandfather. By the time the farm hands were hoeing the fields for the third time, they usually were so worn out that they would quit. That meant victory for the landlord, for he would then refuse payment to them for not finishing their jobs.

"Ai ya!" Someone's cry and the pain of their own bodies being buffeted roused the peasants from their slumber just when it was sweetest. The sun had already risen, and Skinner Jou was viciously belaboring them with his staff. As the men got to their feet, the landlord's beady eyes glittered.

"You eat my food and draw my pay and this is how you work! So, you come here to sleep, eh? If you don't finish hoeing this field before noon, don't expect to eat!" Jou turned to the man with him. "Take the food back."

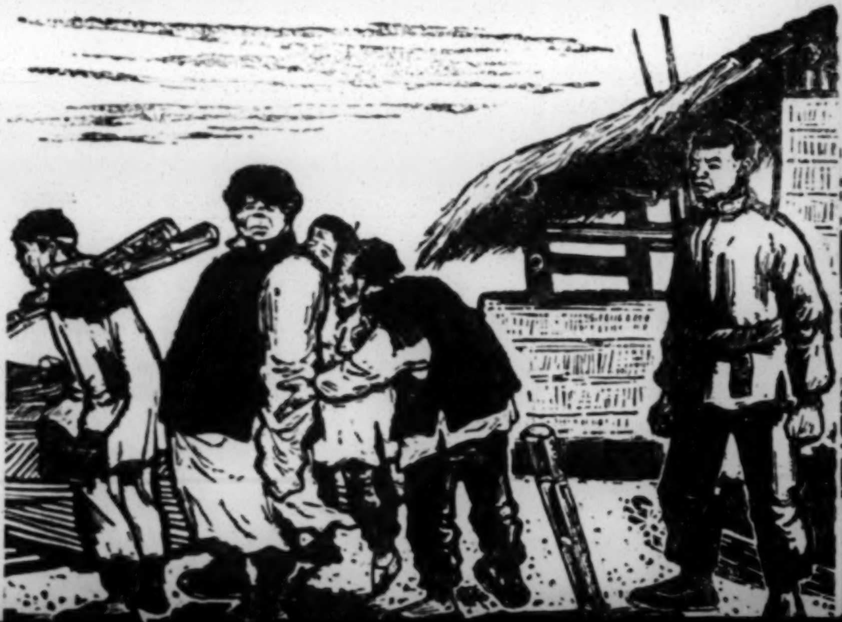
The landlord had gotten up early, and when the peasants didn't return for breakfast he decided to bring it to them to save the time it would take them travelling to and from their quarters. Thus, he could get that much more work out of them. He ordered the old man who herded his cattle to bring the food up to the hillside. Finding the peasants asleep, Skinner was enraged. He sent the old man back, and, cursing the hired hands, he too departed.

BURNING with anger, some of the peasants wanted to quit immediately; some wanted to go after the landlord and demand to be paid off; others were in favor of returning to their homes. Smiling, Kao restrained them. "Don't go, uncles," he urged. "I have a plan. If you'll listen to me we can all let off steam and give that old bastard a good beating ”

"What kind of a stupid idea is that, youngster?" said one of the men. "He's got money and power, and he's chief of the ward besides. He's the little emperor around here. How can we dare to touch him?"

"This boy is full of good ideas," grinned another.

"I'm not being stupid, uncles. Why can't you see it? It would be easy. Every night he doesn't let us sleep, trying to wear us out. Isn't Uncle



Yang always saying, 'Whoever strikes the first blow wins the battle.' Why can't we teach him a lesson and do this . . ."

The peasants listened to Kao's scheme, then laughed heartily. "Good, good!" they approved. "Let's do it that way!"

At noon when they returned for lunch, Skinner Jou still cursed them. But they said nothing, and the incident seemed to be ended.

TWO or three days later, the hired hands had big sticks all prepared. They extinguished the lamp after supper and sent young Kao into the courtyard to watch. About an hour had gone by when Kao spotted Skinner tip-toeing toward the hen house. Just as the landlord reached the door, Kao shouted with all his might.

"Thief!"

The men came pouring out. They knocked Jou down and began pounding him with their sticks.

"Stop! It's me!" squawked the landlord.

"Sure it is. Let's see whether you come stealing chickens again!"

Kao ran to the center of the courtyard, yelling, "Ward chief Jou! Come on out! A thief! We've caught a thief!"

The uproar awakened the Japanese garrison officer living in the landlord's house. Flanked by two bodyguards, he rushed into the courtyard with pistol in hand.

"Little thief not allowed!" he screamed. "Beat altogether to death!"

From the bedroom, the landlord's wife and son, Nuisance, hastily began to cry, "Don't hit—" when the rest of their words were drowned out by the roar of two shots from the officer's pistol.

"Ai ya!" brayed Skinner Jou. "It's me!"—and dove head first into the chicken coop.

As the Japanese closed in on him, pistol ready for another volley, Jou's wife, naked except for a pair of trousers clutched to her waist, came jouncing frantically out of the house. Her loud wail, "He's the Ward Chief!", finally stayed the officers' hand.

"But you've never come to the hen house before!" The peasants feigned great astonishment. "Why have you come out in the middle of the night to snatch chickens? Quick, somebody bring a light!"

NUISANCE came running from the bedroom with a lamp. What a sight! Blood was streaming from two wounds in the landlord's thighs. Like a mountain pheasant, Skinner had worried about his head, but left his tail sticking out. The men hauled him out and set him on the ground where he hugged his injured legs and bawled. His face was covered with slimy bird droppings. Delighted, the hired hands kept their expressions straight.

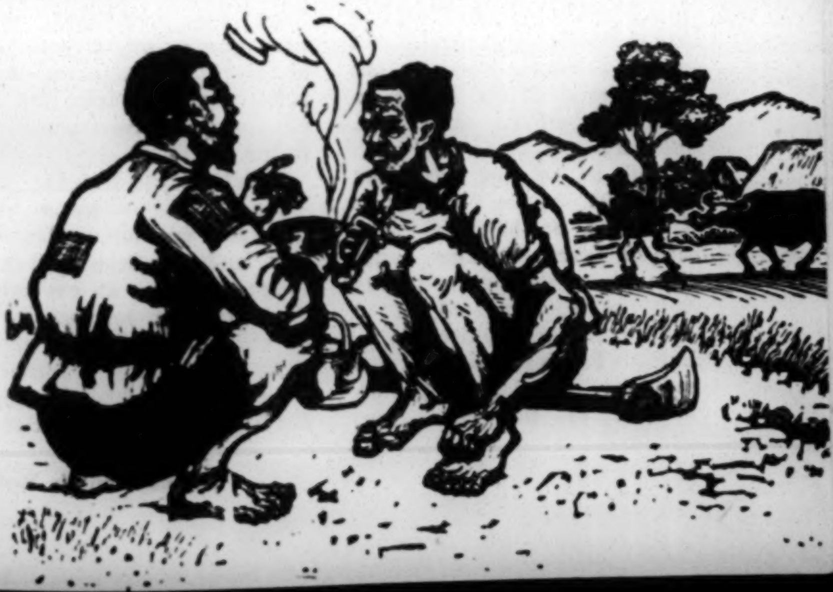
"We thought it was a thief," sighed peasant Liu, regretfully. "What ever are you doing out here at this hour?"

"It's terrible!" sobbed the landlord. "The last thing I knew, I was in bed, sleeping deeply. I can't imagine what evil force dragged me to the yard!"

"Very dangerous!" the peasants said solemnly. "There must be ghosts in your house. You'll have to be more careful!"

They carried Skinner back to his room and the Japanese officer sent for a doctor. Both of the landlord's thigh bones had been broken. Skinner was in a fury of frustration but there was nothing he could say.

He never dared to go near the hen house again. He stayed away from the fields too.



# China's Largest Province: Sinkiang in the Far West

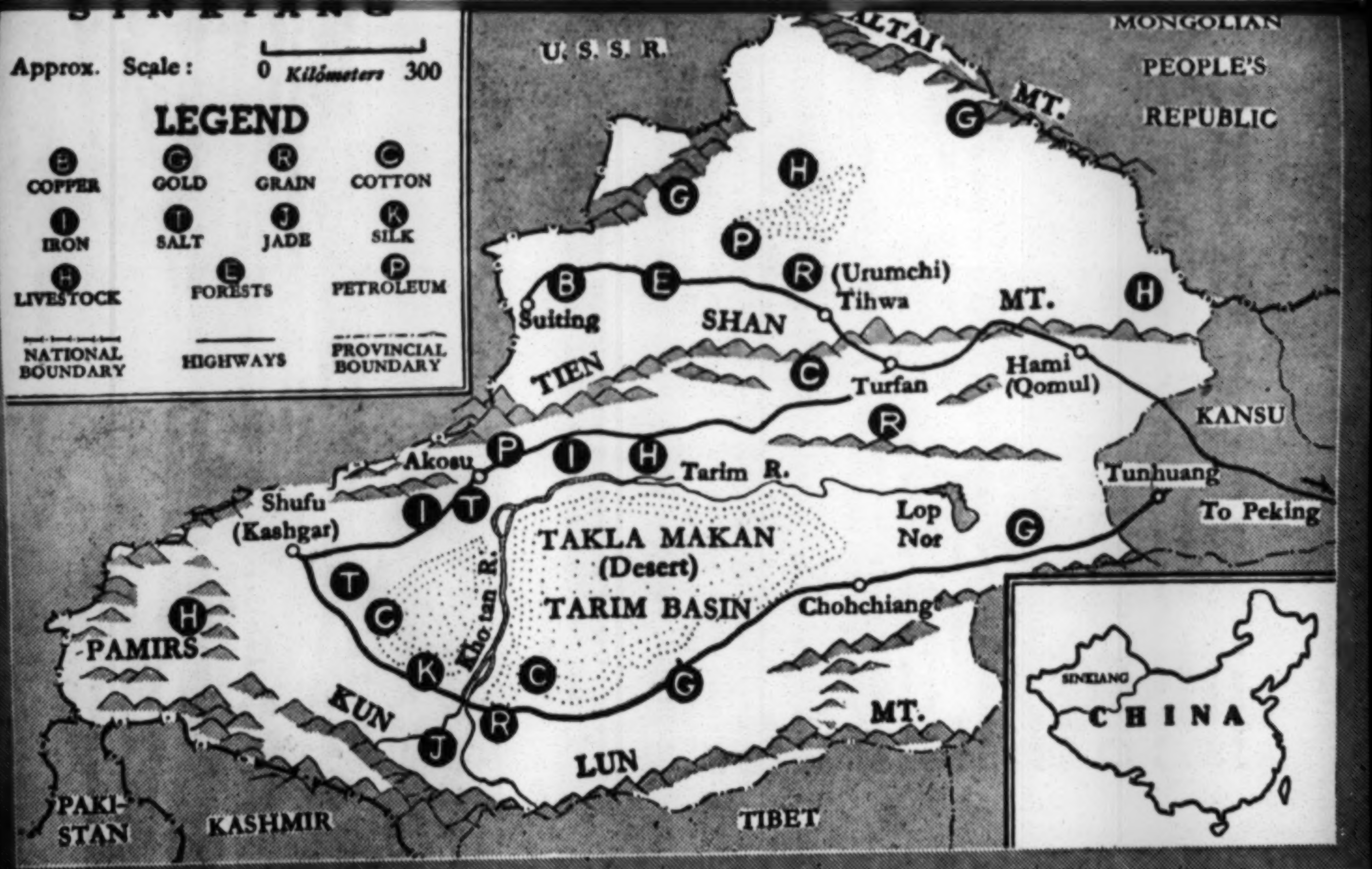
*— Fast becoming one of the country's important productive regions —*

SINKIANG (Chinese Turkestan), China's westernmost province, is sparsely populated, but possesses natural resources and vast areas which are now being made fertile by irrigation. Under Kuomintang (KMT) rule, the people were subjected to heavy exploitation by officials and landlords; transportation was rudimentary and the province was isolated from the country's industrial centers. Most of the population lived a primitive herding life. During the past three years, however, Sinkiang has made rapid strides in the development of its agriculture, industry and trade.

With an area of more than 1,700,000 square kilometers (two and one-half times the size of Texas), Sinkiang is inhabited by only some 5,000,000 people, composed of 13 different nationalities. Uighurs (Turkis) are in the majority, forming about 75 percent of the population; Kazahks, Hans (Chinese), Moslems and Mongols make up another 20 percent; the rest include Tartars, Manchus, Sibos, Russians and others.

For the most part Sinkiang is a vast region of rocky deserts, subdivided by great mountain ranges. These mountains furnish what little water the lowlands receive; in the Tien Shan mountains alone are thousands of glaciers, giving rise to as many rivers. Where these rivers emerge from the mountains, oases have grown up, where most of the population lives. Agriculture depends upon the efficient use of river water for irrigation.

Sufficient to irrigate vast areas, in Kuomintang days the water was monopolized by rich landlords who sold it to the peasants for an exorbitant share of the harvest. Only an estimated one-third of the land and water resources were being used, and under KMT-landlord rule cultivated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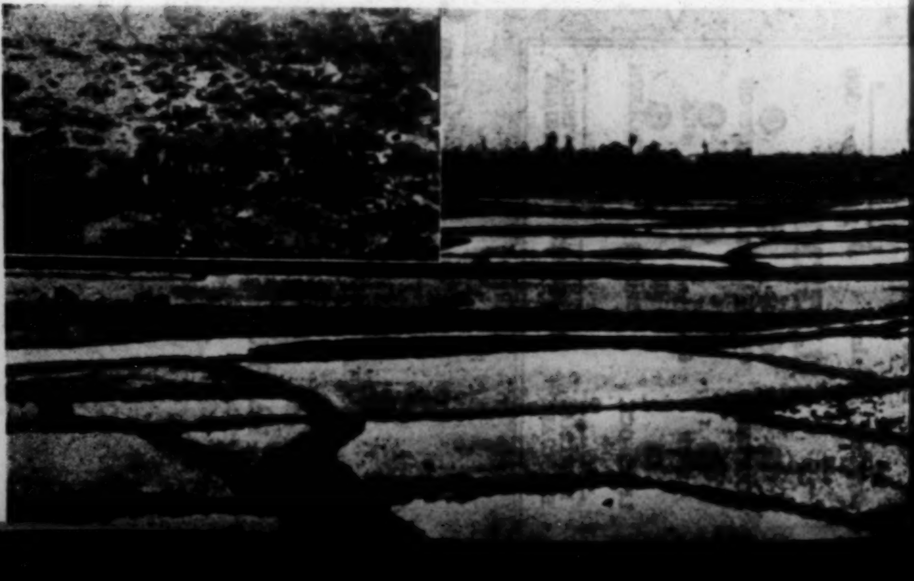
land was allowed to return to the desert. No flood control or equitable distribution of water was enforced.

DURING the past three years, however, the government has begun work on water conservancy projects on a large scale. The People's Liberation Army men stationed in Sinkiang pioneered in this constructive work, and they were joined by tens of thousands of civilian workers.

No easy task, for example, was the construction of the People's Canal in Turfan. Though little more than five kilometers long, the canal had to cross desert and to cut through a high rock cliff. The difficult job was done after three months' intensive work, and included the construction of sluice gates and a bridge. As a result more than 30,000 *mou* (5,000 acres) of Gobi Desert have become fertile land, increasing Turfan's famous grape crop by 100 per cent.

Today Sinkiang is crisscrossed by such irrigation canals, with new ones being opened up in cities like Hami, Tihua, Akosu, Kashgar and in many other areas. By last July, irrigated land in Sinkiang totaled 739,323 *mou* (more than 123,000 acres), of which nearly two-thirds were watered by newly-built canals. Before liberation there were only 513 canals; this year there were 10,178, in addition

**One of the irrigation projects carried out by PLA men in Sinkiang. Inset shows the land before reclamation.**



to 1,738 springs and 717 wells.

Owing to the introduction of high-yield cotton and wheat seeds by the government, bumper crops have been gathered throughout the province. Compared with 1949, output of cotton was 175 percent, and of wheat 130 percent. This year new wheat production records have been attained; in one region, about two acres planted to winter wheat produced an average of more than 9,088 pounds per acre, an unprecedented figure.

OTHER government measures have contributed to agricultural progress. During the first six months of 1952, government loans to farmers totaled more than ¥10,000,000,000. Also, mechanical farming is being introduced, and two collective farms have been established. These are equipped with tractors, and by this summer much other machinery, including 120 sowers, 123 plowing machines and 702 harvesters, was working on the land. The extension of the land reform program ensures a further increase in agricultural production and betterment of the farmers' living conditions.

A few years ago, Sinkiang had virtually no industry. Industrial development was hindered by the high mountain ranges which made transportation difficult and costly. For the simplest manufactures, the province depended upon other areas of the country. On the one hand, the prices of manufactured articles were high, and on the other, the prices of its agricultural products drastically declined. Economic development was thus stifled.

During the past three years, the government has achieved an initial success in its efforts to develop industry in Sinkiang. A number of industrial enterprises have been established, including an iron and steel works, a cement plant, three power plants, several open - face mines, a flour mill, a match factory, a soap factory, a sugar refinery, a wool spinning mill, and a textile mill.

Again, PLA men have contributed greatly to Sinkiang's industrial construction, for example in the building of the Chi Yi Textile Mill, inaugurated last July. Of concrete construction and equipped with the most up-to-date machinery, the mill is the biggest in the province. Along with more than 200 technical workers, engineers and specialists from Shanghai, an army of PLA men took part in the construction job, under such rigorous conditions as felling trees at 40 degrees below zero on the Tien Shan Mountains.

The rapid progress of Sinkiang's industry has given additional impetus to the development of the overall economy of the province, its agricultural production, the interflow of goods between urban and rural areas, and has been responsible in large part for the raising of living standards.

DEVELOPMENTS in Sinkiang's communications have been equally impressive. Compared with pre-liberation days, the total length of highways is now 60 percent greater; there are more than 20 main trunk highways in the province. Improved communications have aided the development of internal and external trade. In three years, the Sinkiang Trading Company, largest in the province, has established 10 subcompanies and 36 branches.

Cooperative enterprise has also made great strides. Sinkiang now has more than 200 cooperatives of various types, large and small. Compared with 1950, cooperative membership this year was nearly 100 percent larger, while capital increased 90 percent.

With the rapid development of agriculture, industry and trade, Sinkiang's economy has entered upon a period of healthy, flourishing growth. Under the Kuomintang, while the province stagnated, prices were the highest in the country, and kept inflating until the Sinkiang Provincial Bank issued banknotes in the denomination of 6,000,000,000 Sinkiang dollars (equal to 10,000 KMT "Gold Yuan"). Bureaucrats and blackmarketeers reaped huge profits while the people of Sinkiang sank into debt and starvation.

Commodity prices in Sinkiang, as in the rest of China, have been stabilized; in fact, they are much lower than during the early post-liberation period. If the wholesale price index of December 1951 is taken as 100, it fell to 85 in July of this year. Greatest reduction was in much-needed industrial equipment, which fell in price by about 47 percent.

Stabilization of commodity prices and the currency have resulted in a great increase in deposits in the People's Bank. Taking the December 1949 deposit index as 100, it jumped to 35,488 in the first half of this year, an increase of more than 350 times.

*A SUCCESSFUL CLEAN-UP*

# Battle in our Lane

*SHIRLEY WOOD HUANG*

SHANGHAI'S former "key money" system enabled the landlord, in addition to a nominal monthly rent, to get 20 years' rent in a lump sum from the first tenant, who hoped to recover it from his successor when he moved out. Putting up jerry-built houses and getting back his investment very quickly, the landlord had no interest whatsoever in maintenance.

We arrived in Shanghai six months before liberation and stayed in a hotel two months before we found a house. The best that could be said for it was that it was cheap. I didn't see it until we moved in. Our pedicabs, filled with us and our luggage, stopped outside a rotting wooden gate on a narrow street, while someone asked at the store next door for the key.

Garbage and lurid black water filled the gutter; along a bamboo trough which jutted from under the gate ran a trickle of urine. Our pedicabs squeezed through the gate and up a narrow lane, skirting a cave-in, then turned into a yard.

Facing us was a row of five house fronts, exactly alike, from which the stucco was already peeling, although they had been built only three months. Three of the houses had just sufficient frontage for a man to walk along with his elbows sticking out.

The greater part of the yard was taken up by a fenced enclosure which our landlord hoped to rent out as a work yard; at the moment it was filled with what appeared to be rubbish, but he said he was going to sell it and make some money. There was also

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SHIRLEY WOOD HUANG was born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and went to Michigan State College, where she met her husband, a Chinese veterinarian and serologist. She has been in China for six and a half years and is raising her three children in this country.

a sort of shed, which leaned tipsily against the fence.

It was equally depressing inside our house. The plaster was already yellowing and the woodwork beginning to warp. I walked over a slightly bouncing floor to the kitchen. Across the back lane, nearly three feet wide in one place, was a wooden shanty with a thatched roof. The lane was filled with muck, which promised to become odorous in hot weather.

Later, the house agent, whom the landlord called a scoundrel, told us that the landlord was a swindler. The landlord said that the contractor had cheated him. We tenants felt that it was six of one and half dozen of the other.

ONE of the first things we did after settling was to dump buckets of cinders into the back lane — and watch it sink out of sight. However, our neighbors followed our example, and after a year or so we could use the back door, if we didn't mind the crawling creatures that dropped off the thatch of the shed opposite.

As we became acquainted we began to discuss the problem of how to improve our surroundings. Our chief worry was the thatched fire hazard behind our tinderbox homes, where bad-smelling millipedes bred in the thatch during the summer and invaded us in swarms.

The more energetic residents wanted to complain about it, and the others hoped we would. A neighbor drafted a letter to the police department, which half of us signed. The others, unwilling to become involved, made excuses, and the letter went out with the next day's rubbish.

No one was happy about the open latrine near the entrance of the lane; but we could do nothing about it because the store which used it was owned by the landlord's brother, and furthermore the store gave us a through right-of-way and kept the gate locked at night.

The three end houses in our row, practically up against the landlord's fence, got no air or sunlight, and the tons of peat which he stored in the workyard, calling it "industrial material," bred myriads of insects. By refusing to pay rent for months we persuaded the landlord to make urgent house repairs, but we could only curse our other miseries and collectively endure them.

ONE day in the spring of 1951, when our lane included 10 families, 30 children and four pregnancies, three young women from the Fu Nu Hui (Family Women's Organization) walked into the yard and asked where they could hold a meeting. All we women of the lane gathered, and learned that the government wished all lanes to organize branches of the organization, which would help us combat illiteracy, landlords and other evils.

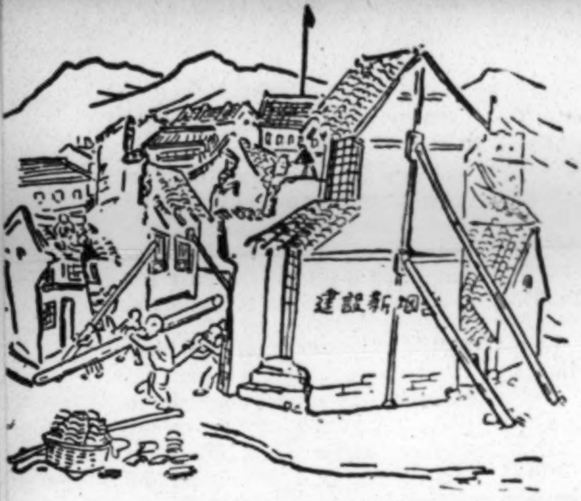
We registered our names and elected a representative by a process of elimination. Who was not working? Who could read and write? Who had a small family? The one elected was not very enthusiastic, but no one else qualified.

At district meetings our representative learned where to get assistance and how to use it. Organization itself gave us enough weight to accomplish some things. We persuaded the neighbors to repair the sewer, which had caused the cave-in, and the store to rebuild its sagging wall, which had been held up by props in the lane. The landlords jointly paid for a new gate, and the junkyard fence was moved back to give the houses a five-foot frontage. We bought a small blackboard for our wall newspaper and agreed that for a week at a time each family in turn was to sweep the lane daily, turn on the light in the evening and close the gate after 10 o'clock.

When the men saw our results they became enthusiastic and undertook to install another light at the head of the lane, and a bell at the gate for the convenience of late-comers.

WHILE most of us sat back to enjoy what we had accomplished, some wanted to make an attack on the owner of the thatched shed. We were unanimous that it should be removed, but differed on method, and compromised by sending a delegation to discuss the matter with him. He politely guaranteed that the shed would not burn down, which did little to ease our minds. We then asked the city construction bureau to

Shanghai's Willow Pattern Pond was recently dredged.



investigate. The shed owner said that he intended to put on a tile roof eventually, and there the matter rested.

Then one night a nearby lumber yard burned down. The wind blew flaming brands over us, and the shed owner had all his workmen on the roof while we passed up buckets of water. Two weeks later he replaced the thatch with tiles.

In the meantime our landlord's brother started making coal briquettes in the junkyard, which he sold in his little store at the gate. We complained about the rickety shed and the fence, which was about to collapse, but he did nothing. Then it rained one day and the shed fell down into the yard. It was rebuilt, and a small oven was added, to dry the briquettes in wet weather. At night, with the fire supposedly out, they were left in the oven.

Before long, a fire started, which we put out, and then sent a complaint to the police. The next day a policeman investigated, but told us firmly that production was more important than our problems. We said that the coal company filled the yard with briquettes to dry, leaving no place for the children to play; but he replied that we had rented houses, not a playground, and the yard belonged to the landlord. The landlord's brother stood by, smirking.

Next month there was another fire, and then another, at midnight, when the oven burst open. The lane was kept busy forming bucket brigades. At last the coal company agreed to stop making briquettes in the yard, but continued to store them there.

THE health and sanitation campaign, which began in June, 1952, gave us support in our anti-coal movement; and by this time we had a full-fledged lane residents' organization, with accountant and cultural director. We took the coalyard to the police substation, the district station, the district government and finally to the construction bureau, which handed down the verdict that as the owner had only registered the store, not the work yard, the latter was therefore illegal. He had to get out, and we gave him a month. It was as simple as that.

That night we called a meeting to discuss the sanitation campaign, which was attended by a representative from the police, who explained more about it. Sanitation, he said, was not only a matter of national pride, but also of national defense. Everyone was to clean house inside and out, with particular attention to the breeding places of rats and insects. Citywide inspection would be held soon and the model lanes presented with red flags at a ceremony.

We elected a lane health director, and the next day we sent a letter to the Public Health Bureau. A PHB worker came, looked at the work yard, shook his head and asked to see the landlord. Our representative took him over, and came back with the news that the landlord had to tidy up his rubbish and cart away the entire pile of peat. He had also given his unwilling consent for us to move the fence back another foot and a half.

On Saturday we cleaned our own houses, and on Sunday we moved the fence, swept the ground clean, and sprinkled powdered lime around fences and walls and the back lane. Then we sat back and waited for the inspection team, which didn't get around until two days later, when the children had tracked up the floors again.

Since then we have sent two women to a short course on health and sanitation and six dead rats to the police. The lane health directors have formed mutual inspection teams and check all houses and lanes weekly in a red flag emulation contest. The children have been organized in a fly-swatting brigade and also compete for red flags. And when we were recently asked if we had any criticisms of the police, we complained strongly about the young policeman who had refused to listen to us the summer before.

We are not a model lane, or even a good lane, but we all think it is great to be organized.

## NEW DEAL FOR

# Fukien's Minority Peoples

● ● ● *Ho Tun-sun*

IN a tiny village in eastern Fukien, Chu Yuan Ping, live 18 families of Miaos, the minority people formerly so downtrodden and persecuted that they were on the way to extinction. Although they constantly struggled against racial discrimination, until liberation their numbers continued to dwindle and their life became more difficult.

The myth of the Miaos' "natural inferiority" has long been carefully fostered, buttressed by superstitions and tales since ancient feudal times. A local myth had it that the Miaos were not descended from human forebears, as were the Hans (Chinese), but from a dog.

The then king of Fukien was said to have promised his daughter to anyone who would rid him of a certain enemy. A dog killed the king's enemy, and the king, in rage and mortification, killed the dog and had its skin dried in the sun. As if possessed by a spirit, the skin suddenly flew into the palace and enfolded the princess, who, as a result, was found with child—the supposed Adam of the Miao race.

Such absurd fairy tales helped to maintain racial prejudice against the Miaos, who, under age-long persecution, grew few in numbers and were driven into the mountains. Even there they were not free from the exploitation of landlords, who contemtuously rented out distant plots of barren land to them at rentals exceeding 50 percent of the harvest. They were desperately poor, always threatened with starvation, the men frequently carried off by press gangs to fight in the incessant civil wars.

Although few in numbers, this group of Miaos took part in the revolutionary struggle during the years 1927-1936. They joined a guerilla detachment as the Red Army partisan movement spread in the region, and fought against Chiang Kai-shek's "mopping-up campaigns." In August

1936, KMT troops burned down their village; they rebuilt, only to lose their huts again when they were burned by landlord Chin Kai-chien and his gang. He shouted that he would burn their houses as fast as they could rebuild them.

Nevertheless, with help and encouragement from the Red Army, they did rebuild; but again KMT troops reduced their dwellings to ashes two months later. The Miaos temporarily took refuge in the mountains, and soon afterwards triumphantly returned to their village after helping to defeat Chiang's troops.

NOW, this same village, devastated so often, wears a bright and prosperous air. Shortly after liberation, the government issued a considerable amount of money and grain to the Miaos for immediate relief, and further credits were given to assist the restoration of farm production. As a result of land reform, the 18 households received 140 *mou* of land, and the peasants work on their own land with double enthusiasm. One farmer, rejoicing that he now enjoys the return from his toil, plans to raise his output next year by working harder and using more fertilizer; and he recalled the bitter past, when he was assessed a tax of 45 *piculs* of grain, when his harvest was less than one *picul*.

Progress is seen everywhere in the new village. While the annual output of tea averaged only 4 *piculs*, this year it was nearly 29 *piculs;* and where the villagers formerly hid out in the hills as their houses were reduced to smoking ruins, they now live in two big buildings constructed for them by the government. One Miao woman said, "Not long ago we were like birds without a nest; now we are all well housed, thanks to the people's government."

Where there used to be hunger, the Miaos living on a scanty vegetable diet six months of the year, now there is rice to eat. Cloth was formerly almost an unknown luxury, no villager having bought any since 1939; but last year the village was able to buy 17 bolts of cloth.

In order to help the Miaos grow more crops, the government opened a short-term evening class last spring, engaging seven experienced farmers and two veterinarians to teach how best to grow rice, peanuts, beans, cotton and tomatoes, and how best to raise livestock and treat their diseases.

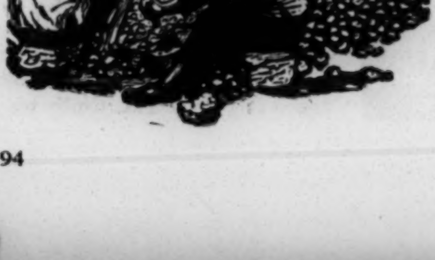
After these lectures, one peasant regretted that he had known so little about the use of the tomato plant as food for pigs; and another said he was glad to find out the real causes of crop failure and animal diseases, which formerly were generally laid to the farmer's "ill luck."

Irrigation will also greatly increase the villagers' yields. About 100 *mou* of land had formerly been irrigated by the waters of a stream, regulated by a dike. But 50 years ago, the dike had been washed out by a freshet, and the poverty-stricken Miaos could not afford to repair it. The fields, year in and year out, were flooded or parched, and crops were extremely poor.

However, the government appropriated a sum as a loan for the repair and improvement of the dike. Every day, 60 Miaos worked on it, and it was finished in less than a month; 120 feet long, it will irrigate 100 farms.

With improvement in conditions, for the first time the tiny group of Miaos, instead of dwindling, has begun to increase, with 15 births since liberation. The people have begun to see the importance of education, and the winter literacy class will soon become a regular school.

So this formerly poor, backward little village, whose inhabitants eked out a bare living on the barren hills, is growing nore prosperous almost daily. It is now a beautiful site, surrounded by the 300 fir and 280 tung trees newly planted, the burnt-over hillsides a fresh pattern of tilled fields criss-crossed by lines of new trees and shrubs. The Miaos, instead of dreading the future, now look forward with anticipation to the even better life that will surely be theirs next year.



# Letter to an American Friend

### Sophia Chang

**Sophia Chang teaches at the Hsiangya Medical College in Changsha, central China, where her husband is a leader in the YMCA. She recently received a letter, via Hongkong, from an American friend, who wrote, "Every day I have asked God to help you both. . . . Only I did not suppose it was possible for me to reach you by mail or by sending provisions. . . . An instructor at Yale . . . told me that he believed I could write to the YMCA in Hongkong for news of you. If this letter reaches you and if you can write to me, please tell me how and what to send to you in the way of food, clothing or what you need most." This is Mrs. Chang's reply.**

IT was very good to get your letter and to learn of your friendly regard for us. However, my husband and I must tell you that you need have no misgivings regarding our welfare. Evidently you are afraid that we are being persecuted, that there is a "bamboo curtain" around China, and that direct mail to us, or things sent to us would be confiscated. Nothing is farther from the truth. You need not have recourse to indirect communication, and as for us, there is no prohibition of correspondence with our American friends.

Most important, your fears about our material welfare are quite mistaken. We appreciate your impulse to extend a helping hand; but apparently you have been misled by press reports on the "miserable" living conditions in China. You have not heard about the new China that is coming into being, a strong and happy China with an abundance of food. The whole nation is celebrating this year's bumper crops and has bought new clothes for the National Day celebrations and the Mid-Autumn Festival. We are not hungry and cold and we have no need for gifts of food and clothing.

The inflation of a few years ago, with its constantly soaring prices, has been ended and prices have been stable for more than two years now. Our salaries have been increased, like those of most others who are working; and local department stores are always crowded with customers, as if they were shopping for New Year's every day.

LET me tell you something about my own family life. Last year I bought a three-octave piano accordion and every member of the family got several suits of new clothing. Our daily menu includes pork, beef or fish, eggs and vegetables. My son, three and a half, has fresh milk, an egg and bread for breakfast. My mother, husband and I are all working and at home we have a cook and maid who takes our boy to the day nursery and looks after him the rest of the time.

No, we do not need any food or clothing from America. The Chinese people have relegated want to the limbo of the past. But there is one thing we do need, and that is peace—peace which will ensure us our lives, which will permit us to work in security constantly to improve our standard of living and our cultural life. Because the peoples of Asia want peace, free international trade and cultural exchange, representatives of Asian and Pacific

Housewives embroider the word "peace" on a tablecloth.

**Peace delegates greeted by the people of Peking at the close of the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference.**

countries recently met in Peking, showing the determination of their peoples to live and let live in peace, despite diversities in political systems and religious beliefs. China welcomes all who aspire to peace, be they Japanese, American, British or any other nationality.

There is freedom of religious affiliation and worship in China; there is no discrimination against those who believe in God, the Virgin Mary, Buddha or Mohammed in applications for union membership, in one's working organization, or anywhere in everyday life. Masses and services are held as usual; last Sunday about 120 took part in the Communion Service at the local Church of Christ in China.

Both Protestants and Catholics have made a great effort to carry out the "self-governing, self-propagating, self-supporting" church reform movement. Inter-denominational quarrels have waned and a new *esprit de corps* has arisen among all Christians, who are united in their belief in the same God and in their love for their motherland.

An exciting part of the National Day parade in Changsha was the section of 1,000 Protestants, Catholics and Buddhist nuns and priests, who carried posters of the dove of peace. They were heralded by a group of 10 carrying a six-foot globe surmounted by a peace dove, signifying the unity of the peoples of the whole world for peace. The group was greeted by thunderous applause.

The local YMCA is taking active part in the Church Reform Movement and for the first time it is really functioning wholeheartedly as a Christian organization, mobilizing all its financial and personnel resources for the big job, having eliminated such side-track activities as restaurants, dormitories and cinema shows.

CHINA is open to all peace-loving peoples of the world, and her citizens enjoy corresponding with them. But the people of China, who are engaged on the great task of building up a new nation, a new life, deeply hate the warmongers, the destroyers, those who build barriers between nations.

We know that basically the American people also do not want war. Mothers dread to see their sons or husbands go off to distant battlefields, fear the message reporting that someone dear to them is dead or missing. The farmers on their fields, the workers in their factories, the students, the teachers, the ordinary man-in-the-street—nobody wants to be taken from his life and work and sent into battle. The people of China earnestly hope that the American people will learn more about the real conditions in China, will see through the lies of those who want to provoke war; we hope that friendship between the two peoples will be strengthened in our common struggle for peace.

Consider the great achievements China has made in three short years: the hundreds of millions of peasants, who have thrown off landlordism, debt and starvation; today they are the masters of their own farms. The workers, formerly despised, are taking the lead in restoring and developing our national economy; for the first time they are respected, they are leading decent lives, and well-equipped sanatoriums and rest homes have been built for them. Huge water conservancy projects have been carried out. It would take a book to describe the institution of free medical treatment for all government workers, the growth of cooperatives, the construction of railroads, free schooling for all college and secondary school students, and a host of other things. Is it reasonable to suppose that we would be so foolish as to endanger these gains by desiring to start a war?

I am making public my reply to you, because I believe there are many peace-loving Americans who are also misinformed about China. I hope you will understand that we in China are leading better lives, that we are working to build a new China, and that we desire only peace and trade with all nations so that we can get on with our work.

# New Industry in Former Capital

EVERY big city in China now has a Workers' Cultural Palace, where workers and their families can relax and enjoy themselves. In addition, it offers educational facilities at little or no cost. The closest term for "workers' cultural palace" in the Western vernacular is "workers' club."

In the former Kuomintang capital, Nanking, a club for working people was unheard of. Today, the city has a Workers' Cultural Palace which is housed in a spacious building, originally a birthday present to Chiang Kai-shek, and later used as a club, restaurant and dancehall for high-ranking KMT officials. After liberation the Nanking municipal government and the general labor union spent a large sum of money to convert this onetime playground into a workers' club.

Since it was formally opened to all workers and their family members on June 2, 1951, the attendance has been more than 1,200,000. An average of 3,000 people use it daily, with more on Saturday nights and Sundays. In addition to this main building, many factories in Nanking have their own workers' clubs.

SPENDING a day at one of these clubs shows not only how life has changed for the workers, but also how the production of industrial and consumer goods is leaping ahead in the city, which under KMT rule produced scarcely anything.

Completely renovated, this former site of lavish entertainment for top flight KMT officialdom now caters to every cultural need of the workers. Here a worker in his off-hours can attend classes in drama, music and group dancing. Organized art study, especially in sculpture, is very popular, and classes in architecture are well-attended. A large library, theater, restaurant serving cheap meals, clinic and barber shop round out the facilities.

A chief feature of the Nanking Workers' Cultural Palace is the exhibition of equipment manufactured in the city. Including diagrams, charts and statistics, these exhibitions give a vivid picture of the progress being made in industry and commerce. Such was the recent exhibition, which opened on October 1, National Day, showing developments during the past three years.

The greater part of the exhibition, including hundreds of sample products, was devoted to equipment now being turned out by Nanking's factories and shops. There was also a section on handicrafts, showing the renewed vitality of this ancient tradition which dates back a thousand years to the Sung Dynasty.

THE development of all types of industrial production, particularly machine tools, is the more striking in view of the fact that in the old days Nanking turned out scarcely any industrial equipment. Before liberation, in what few factories there were, the workers were more interested in trying to salvage a bare living out of their inflation-wracked wages than in trying to increase production.

Today's development of production is tied in with the workers' realization that they all have a stake in their factories and in higher production, which in turn benefits the entire nation.

To anyone who remembers the Nanking of pre-liberation days, the amount and variety of material now being turned out is astonishing. Going through the exhibition, which took up two whole floors of this large building, one came across a range of products similar to that of any industrialized city in the world, from radio tubes to steam turbines.

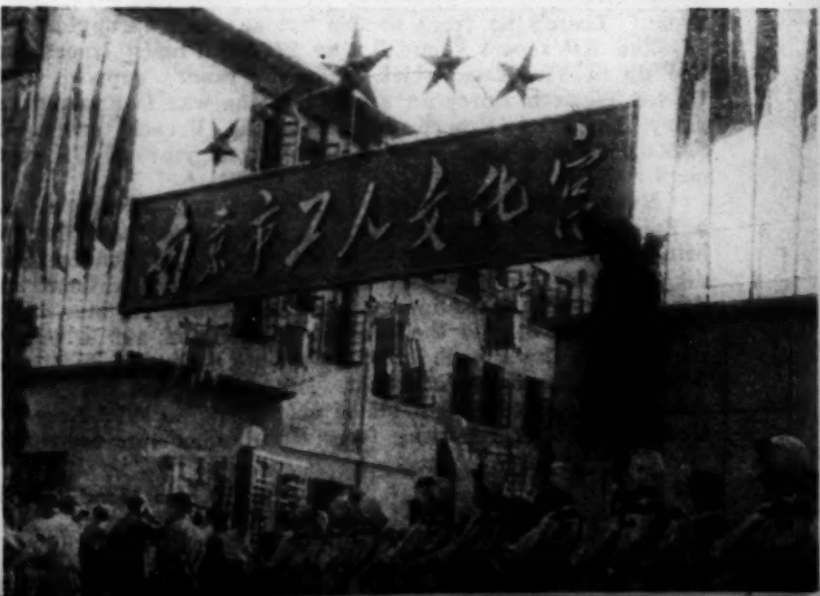
There were high frequency electrical appliances, Klieg lights, projector lamps, radio and telecommunication equipment, including telephone exchanges, dials, radio parts, control panels for broadcasting stations, microphones; fluorescent lamps, moving picture projectors, and lathes.

Many items, such as telephone dials and radio tubes, were produced for the first time in Nanking in 1952. There were water meters, accompanied by a list of the faults of those previously manufactured and the improvements that had been made. Of special interest were such high-precision products as turbine blades, which had never been made in Nanking before.

Charts showed the rise in production over the past three years and the simultaneous lowering of production costs. Taking the 1949 production of precision scales for laboratories as 100, for example, 1950 production rose to 1,550 and to 5,350 in 1952—more than 53 times the 1949 level. The cost of telephone production, taking 1950 as 100, was lowered in 1952 to 85.

The days when Nanking was a focal point of KMT officialdom and foreign embassies are gone. In place of the few lush shops which formerly served the rich are now many government department stores and private shops selling to a public whose purchasing power is steadily going up. Nanking is not a center of heavy industry, but it is turning out an ever-increasing quantity of equipment which will help industrialize the country.

The opening of the Workers' Cultural Palace in Nanking—a clubhouse and school for the city's workers.



# INTERNATIONAL NOTES

## French Defeat in Viet-Nam

FRANCE, having fought for six years to re-impose colonial rule on the people of Viet-Nam, lost the rich rice-bowl area of Nghialo, 95 miles, northwest of Hanoi, in mid-October. *Reuter* called it "the biggest French reverse in the bitter Indo-China fighting since French . . . forces evacuated Hoabinh on February 25."

Viet-Nam forces, having taken 10 French strong points in the area in a week, kept going and drove the French across the Black River, where they took up defensive positions. In the Nghialo fighting 12 divisions were routed.

Just before the French defeat, *AP* cast up accounts for "Asia's No. 2 war, which has caused well over 600,000 casualties and cost thousands of millions of dollars . . . heading toward its seventh year without a glimmer of hope of victory for either side." If *AP* had waited a week, it might have changed the last phrase.

Continuing, *AP* found "no sign of the Vietminh breaking up," and, while vaunting the "vast striking power" of the French, complained, echoing the British in the American War of Independence, that "what the French need badly . . . is a 'front.' There's no front in this 'hit and run' struggle."

The *AP* report admitted that 276,000 French troops were tied up in Viet-Nam, which hindered France's support to the US-led Western European army; that the war is unpopular in many parts of France and costs the French government $1,000,000,000 a year—plus $500,000,000 a year in US equipment.

Even as their forces caved in French and US officials held a Saigon ceremony on October 13 to welcome the 200th ship bringing US arms to carry on the war. Top General Salan declared that "in the past four months, record shipments of American military equipment . . . have been registered."

However, despite the growing Washington aid it was apparent that the French in Viet-Nam were sinking deeper and deeper into the morass of defeat. Military reverses and economic disruption stalked the would-be colonialists in Viet-Nam. On October 26, *AP*, reporting from Hanoi, quoted a top-ranking

French officer "whose job is to keep close tab on the advance and tactics of the Vietminh . . . " Referring to the military tactics of the Viet-Nam forces, the officer said: "It's clear that the Vietminh have shown better coordination, more accurate shooting and more speed in the Black River offensive than ever before."

Hand in hand with the staggering military defeat at Nghialo, economic repercussions were felt in the northern part of French-occupied Viet-Nam, where rice prices soared to the equivalent of nearly $.35 a pound. *AP* reported that "many Vietnamese earn only 20 *piastres* ($1.00) daily," and laid the rising prices to "hoarding by speculators" and the "steady drain on available supplies during the summer."

## Templer's "Victories" in Malaya

SIR Gerald Templer, British High Commissioner for Malaya, has earned the title of the most hated man in that country, which is fighting to free itself of British colonialism. When he took over his post early in 1952, Templer promised to "lick the Communist menace to the country in three months." By the end of the year, however, Templer was singing a different tune, as reported by *UP* from Singapore: "Many people ask me when the emergency is going to end. It would be the greatest folly even to hazard a guess . . . " Actually, with no military victories to his credit, all the "strong man" of Malaya could boast of was his campaign of terror against the Malayan people, highlighted by reprisals against entire communities.

Templer's terror saw numerous villages and towns razed to the ground after the population was forcibly removed to internment camps because of "Communist activities." In Penang 100,000 persons were screened in one day by troops and police. Early in the spring, Templer put a town of 20,000 people, Tanjong Malim, under a 22-hour curfew for 13 days because of "non-cooperation with the government."

HOW Templer's campaign works can be seen from the action taken against the tiny town of Permatang Tinggi in northern Malaya in the summer of 1952.

August 21 (*Reuter*): After placing the town under house arrest, Templer "demanded information about the murder of a Chinese re-settlement officer . . . he threatened further drastic action if information was not forthcoming [within four days] . . . He added that if the villagers remained silent . . . 'you will never live here again as a little community. You will sever all connections with this village and district forever.' "

August 25 (*AP*): "Sixty-six of the 79 villagers of Permatang Tinggi were taken to detention camps today because they refused to inform on a Communist guerilla gang in the neighborhood. British officials said not a single villager filled in a questionnaire . . .

"No one spoke up. In a drizzling rain at 9 a.m. today, 66 weeping residents were pushed into trucks and driven off under heavy guard. Their destination was not announced, nor would officials say what was to become of the 13 remaining . . . The silent people had been shut in their houses after General Templer's ultimatum."

## South Korea Report . . .

WHILE Syngman Rhee's US masters refuse to come to a settlement which would bring peace to the people of Korea, reports from South Korea point up the economic chaos and moral degradation rampant under Rhee's brutal and corrupt regime.

Describing Seoul, a *UP* correspondent wrote from the former South Korean capital in August 1952: ". . . the value of the *won* jumps so responsively to every rumor that long-range plans are almost impossible. Payday for American troops changes the value of the *won,* just as the recurring rumor that the government plans to move back into the old capital city from Pusan does."

Seoul's business is conducted chiefly by "fly-by-night merchants who set up shop in ruined buildings, alleys and along streets . . . Its customers are the wealthy people of today's Korea: United Nations troops. The merchandise comes mainly from smuggling, thieving and occasionally legal sources.

"Many old men, women and boys scratch out a living out of collecting scrap . . . They can be seen on the edge of town, carefully sifting through the rubble, searching for little objects to sell for enough food for the day. . .

"Refugees from 26 orphanages around Seoul . . . are the main solicitors for Seoul's more than 10,000 prostitutes. These prostitutes, some of them as young as 15 years old, constitute the biggest single industry in the city . . . "

On the same day the government ordered the destruction of the village whose inhabitants "were last week given four days to provide information about the murder of a government official." (*Reuter*)

August 26 (*AP*): The Malayan government gave orders today to demolish this village described as a haven for Communist terrorists. Officials instructed natives to begin razing 19 thatched huts in the hamlet from which 66 tightlipped residents were removed to a detention camp yesterday for refusing to divulge movements of a local Red band."

August 28 (*Reuter*): The demolition of the north Malaya village of Permatang Tinggi was completed. "Only the concrete floors of 19 shop-houses remain."

ANOTHER correspondent, Richard Hughes of the *London Sunday Times*, deals with the corruption of Rhee's regime and US collusion with Rhee. From Korea, Hughes wrote:

" . . . under orders of their commanding officers, South Korean troops in the front line are stripping vital communications to sell copper products in the black market; soldiers trained and equipped by the UN are being employed to cut wood for private sale as charcoal . . . The largest South Korean banknote in circulation, 1,000 *won*, is worth six cents in the free market; South Korea's price index, which stood at 100 in 1948 and 328 in 1950, had climbed to 2,026 in mid-May . . . The picture bears an alarming resemblance to the days of Chiang Kai-shek's regime in China."

Accenting this resemblance, *Agence France Presse* and *Reuter* reported in September 1952 outbreaks of rioting and disturbance by wounded ex-servicemen in South Korea. On one occasion 150 wounded veterans attacked a police station north of Taegu in protest against the arrest of two other veterans. This was followed by a protest gathering of 350 veterans who demanded the release of those arrested. That the veterans had grievances was evident from an *AFP* report, which said that "A Wounded Veterans' Association was recently organized, grouping together more than 100,000 South Korea veterans who had been suffering because of absence of government assistance.

"Many of these South Korean veterans are meandering the streets selling pencils and notebooks to get a meager income for a bare living," said *AFP*.

# BOOKS OF INTEREST

***THE HIDDEN HISTORY OF THE KOREAN WAR by I. F. Stone. Published by the Monthly Review, distributed by Citadel Press, 120 E. 25 Street, New York City. $5.00 Reviewed by J. S.***

"THE Hidden History of the Korean War" was written by a veteran Washington journalist who at first believed the official US version of the war in Korea. Based solely on official US and United Nations reports and "respectable" newspaper dispatches, this book should be an eye-opener to people in the West who have been fed a steady ration of untruths about the Korean war. Stone "utilized material which could not be challenged by those who accept the official American government point of view," he tells us in his introduction.

Dealing with events in Korea through the first year of the stalled peace talks, the book brings into sharp focus the combination of Machiavellian and clownish antics carried on by MacArthur, the Truman administration and the Pentagon. The author does not draw such conclusions, but they are inescapable from the facts he presents.

John Foster Dulles, believer in "positive action" in the Far East, is shown in Tokyo a few days before the Korean fighting started, bragging that his conclusions, drawn from his recent visit to South Korea, were identical with those of top military people such as General Bradley and the Secretary of Defense. Dulles' "positive action" was the outbreak of war in Korea on June 25, which gave the US a chance to saddle itself on Japan, invade Chinese territory on Taiwan and prop up the almost extinguished Kuomintang there, and bolster the decaying Rhee regime in South Korea.

STONE then goes on to cover the US campaign in Korea, which has brought shame to the name of America throughout the world. He uses MacArthur's own words to tear to shreds the US-made myth about the Korean war, and shows that "the great man" was an arrant liar in his reports from the fighting front. The "hordes" who drove him back from the Yalu River were something less than that; from American news dispatches, Stone shows that the Chinese forces who entered the war to protect their border did not do so in great numbers, and they were perfectly willing to see an end to the fighting if MacArthur would go back beyond the 38th Parallel.

For those who were told that the UN was carrying out a "police action" in Korea the author proves by UN records how Washington railroaded through the commitment of troops to Korea. He cites official reports and papers such as the **New York Times** which show up the savagery of US forces in their war of extermination against the people of Korea.

Referring to official reports of the November 7, 1950, bombing of Sinuiju, across the Yalu River from the Chinese city of Antung, Stone says, "Tokyo Headquarters, with or without connivance by Washington, ravaged a city when truce was in prospect . . . General Stratemeyer maintained that all targets were of a military nature and bomb runs 'had kept away from the city's hospital areas.' At the same time the Air Force claimed 90 percent of the city had been destroyed. How these statements can be reconciled I do not know. There is an indifference to human suffering to be read between these lines which makes me as an American deeply ashamed of what was done that day at Sinuiju."

The author presents much evidence of Washington's refusal to arrive at a peace in Korea. On numerous occasions when peace seemed near, a MacArthur, a Ridgway or Truman took action which blasted peace hopes. Bringing to light the crux of the US dilemma in Korea, Stone says that Truman and Acheson have followed a policy which "required the maintenance of tension at home and abroad, in order to make politically possible the imposition of a heavier burden of armament and taxes, the rearmament of Western Germany and Japan . . ." Citing much supporting evidence, he continues, thus "the settlement of the Korean question by peaceful means would inevitably create a burst of good feeling Washington wished desperately to avoid."

ADMIRABLE as Stone's method may be to convince the victims of tons of US propaganda about Korea, to this reviewer he makes too much of his impartiality. His evidence shatters the US version that the war was instigated by Moscow, but he offers no judgment of his own. It should be pointed out that Stone's "hidden war" has been quite open to the understanding of millions in the Far East, where aggression is no new thing. It is too bad he did not discuss the documentary evidence available from the Korean and Chinese side.

Another defect in the book is its apparent disregard of a most significant feature of the war in Korea: that the people of Asia are unconquerable, and that Washington has suffered a severe defeat. Stone has left loose threads hanging here which when tied together show what would happen in a US-led world war.

Nevertheless, "The Hidden History" is a contribution to the forces of peace, for it shows up the inherent wickedness and blatant dishonesty of those responsible for the Korean war. For those who have been duped by the US version, the author has mercilessly exposed the open contradictions of the men who started the war and has revealed them in all their naked shame. His incisive, witty and easy-to-read style lends itself admirably to this task.

Congratulations are due the publishers, the independent "Monthly Review," which, in the midst of the darkness fallen upon the US publishing world, had the courage to print the book after commercial houses in both America and England refused to touch it.

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## LETTERS

*(Continued from page 6)*

# FROM THE U.K.

**Cambridge, England**

We heard Dr. Joseph Needham speak to a large meeting on the use of germ warfare in Korea and Northeast China and then answer questions. He is very convincing and many are convinced, but many others so kowtow to Washington that they refuse to open their eyes and ears to anything against its policy.

H. Y. B.

* * *

**Glasgow, Scotland**

As an old Socialist propagandist, who has championed the East against Western imperialism all my life, I look forward to the time when I can visit China and see all the great construction work for myself. I have written an article protesting the terrible atrocities we are committing in Korea. Some people have condemned my story as too strong, but I don't think that any article on this subject can be strong enough.

Guy A. Aldred, Editor
THE WORD

# PUBLIC HEALTH

To the Editor:

A nation-wide housecleaning campaign is taking place in almost every school, factory and building of the country. This action is taken against the American warmongers who dropped germ-laden insects in our Northeast provinces. But most important is to arouse the people's attention toward the promotion of public health work.

Recently a campus clean-up campaign was also launched in our university. Under the strenuous effort of the entire staff—students, professors and workers—every corner of the campus was thoroughly cleaned.

During the campaign, an exhibition on public health was staged. On display were many charts and pictures, and various effective measures to check the spread of epidemic disease were explained. The exhibition gave a useful lesson to the audience. Many nearby residents also came to see it.

Through this clean-up campaign, all of us have realized the vital importance of promoting public health work among the people, especially among the people living in rural areas where sanitary conditions are poor.

MAO HSIANG-LIN
Szechuan University
Chengtu

# NEW COLLEGES

To the Editor:

One of the major changes in new China's educational system has been the amalgamation of universities and colleges in the large cities.

In Tientsin, three institutions of higher education are being reorganized. The engineering colleges of Nankai and Tsin Ku universities will be combined into a new Tientsin Engineering College. The Teachers' College will be moved to Nankai which will remain a university with colleges of arts, finance and economics and science. Tsin Ku, formerly a French mission university, will no longer exist.

At Chi Li Tai, buildings for the new Tientsin Engineering College are under construction, and some of them are already completed.

The reasons for the reorganization of these universities are: First, the problem of shortage of equipment will be solved; second, the teachers will be able to concentrate their time and energy on teaching; third, the new Engineering College will become an independent one devoted to turning out more qualified and specialized personnel to work in the country's construction projects.

At present, the students and faculty members of our university are working enthusiastically for the realization of this project.

YANG CHING-HSIN

Nankai University
Tientsin

## Mothers in Primary School

To the Editor:

It's probably unusual for a mother of four with a degree from an American college to start studying all over again—and in the first grade of primary school at that. But after 12 years of being an illiterate in China I was glad of the chance to join a literacy class and learn to read and write Chinese characters.

My first day at school showed that I wasn't the only mother who wanted to become literate. In fact, our school at the YWCA has some 300 students, and in our section of the first grade, which has 22 students, our ages range from 18 to 53.

Though we represent different sections of the old society, we have a common bond in our desire to learn and take part in new China's progress. In my class there are housewives who are leaving their homes for the first time. One has raised seven children. A young widow is determined to make her life useful. Our oldest classmate is a third wife; one woman is trying to finish the first reader before having her baby. Several ex-taxi dancers are preparing themselves for jobs.

Most of us are busy with home duties, but our progress is remarkable due to our working method of mutual help. In the first month we've thoroughly learned to read, write and use more than 100 characters—not the easiest ones, but the most useful—and the 37 phonetic symbols, in preparation for the "quick learning" method.

We have an exercise book for writing new characters 12 times each, one for copying each lesson twice, and one for writing the lesson from memory. Once a week we carry brush and ink box and copy big phonetic symbols. Each of us, with two classmates, has "cleaning duty" after class once a week, which goes in a jiffy when people work together. We sing, too, in class, learning from the famous opera, "The White-Haired Girl."

We feel young and happy again, knowing that our chance to go to school is making better wives and mothers of us. It gives us a closer bond with our children and helps us to become cultural equals with our husbands. In new China all jobs are open to women on an equal footing with men, and my classmates are eager to make use of their job opportunities.

BETTY CHANDLER CHANG

Tientsin

# Report to Readers

ONE of the indirect results of the Asian and Pacific Regions Peace Conference was that the delegates got a good look at the Chinese people and the new country they are building. It is safe to say that most were rather surprised by what they saw. While all the delegates—as their work in the conference so clearly indicated—were people of good will, not a few came prepared for a fairly rugged time.

The surprises came in rapid succession—the abundant supply of food visible on all sides, the cleanliness of the streets and houses, the well-clothed people, the laughing children who rushed the delegates at every stop on their post-conference tour of the country, shoving flowers into everyone's hands while their elders smiled and clapped from the sidelines.

The delegates came from about as many walks of life as exist and all had ample opportunity to look into what interested them most. Farmers, workers, businessmen, professional men and women, writers, artists, politicians—all were represented.

There was the New York building contractor who always lagged behind—just to ask one more question—during the visit to the various lock and sluice gate sites on the Huai River trip. Sometimes, after a visit to a new factory, one or two delegates would have to be sent back to round up the contractor who would still be crawling around the machinery, or tapping the walls and supports of the building.

There were the women delegates, who held lengthy interviews with women's accociation leaders in nearly every town the delegation hit, and who spent an afternoon in Tientsin listening in on a couple of divorce cases to see for themselves how China's new marriage law works out in practice.

There was the Canadian who carried a letter from a young Chinese student in Canada, asking the delegate to try to find out what had happened to his father-in-law in Hangchow who seemed to have disappeared, not having answered any letters for the past few months. When the delegates, acutely aware of the daily stories in the Western press telling of sudden deaths and disappearances in China, arrived in Hangchow, everyone was anxious for the answer.

As the Canadian set off to run down the address, an American delegate jokingly predicted: "The guy'll probably turn out to be the mayor," a guess that was closer home than he imagined. A few hours later the Canadian returned, bearing letters and photographs, and announced that while the father-in-law wasn't mayor, he was manager of two state farms in the suburbs and had been wondering what had happened to his son-in-law from whom he hadn't heard for several months!

* * *

AND so it went, almost from one end of China to the other, hundreds of delegates looking, asking, listening filling notebook after notebook. The Chinese hosts, proud of their accomplishments and eager to show as much of their country to the visitors as possible, never objected when the delegates would decide at the last minute that they'd rather go there than here as previously scheduled, or vice versa, or when one or two delegates—as often happened—skipped the regular program and wandered off by themselves to inspect goods and prices in shops or have a look at the back streets.

Returning to Peking, preparatory to leaving for home, the delegates sounded like a bunch of explorers just back from a successful expedition, continuously asking one another if they'd seen this or that in this or that place. Not even an emphatic "yes" would stop most, who'd go right on, "But the interesting thing to me was . . . "

## *Report to Readers . . . .*

In Peking, as the delegates began packing for the return trip, the conversation and atmosphere took on a rather different tone. Comments on the quality of the China news carried in their home papers were frequent. Typical was the expression of one Western delegate: "Of course they can't print the truth. If they did, the government's whole foreign policy would collapse overnight."

It was now clear to many, including the late-arriving Australians whose passports were held up until after the conference was closed, and particularly to those members of the Japanese delegation for whom warrants of arrest have been issued, as to why they had so much trouble getting permission to make the trip.

* * *

ALTHOUGH the conference is now some two months past, its effects are still being felt and it is probable that this will continue to be the case for a long time to come. One of the more significant of the early post-conference developments was the signing in Peking on October 23 of a Sino-Chilean Trade Agreement. This was the first concrete expression of the Resolution on Economic Relations adopted by the conference.

The economic benefits which both countries will derive from a reopening of trade are readily apparent. Each has products which the other needs and wants. At the same time it is an effective protest by the Chinese and Chilean peoples against the United States attempt to split the world into two hostile camps.

The conference thus provided an opportunity for representatives of China and Chile to take a step which will not only bring economic benefits to both countries but which, by proving that trade is both possible and desirable, strikes a blow at the theory that peaceful coexistence between East and West is impossible and that war is therefore inevitable.

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